

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE BOARD"

AND

THE ELEMENTARY TEACHERS' FEDERATION

HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE BARGAINING UNIT"

2022 – 2026

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ETFO TEACHERS – PART A: CENTRAL TERMS

C1.00 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

C1.1 Separate Central and Local Terms

The collective agreement shall consist of two parts. Part “A” shall comprise those terms which are central terms. Part “B” shall comprise those terms which are central and local terms. For clarity there shall be one single collective agreement for Teachers and one single collective agreement for Occasional Teachers.

C1.2 Implementation

Part “A” may include provisions respecting the implementation of central terms by the School Board and, where applicable, the bargaining agent. Any such provision shall be binding on the School Board and, where applicable, the bargaining agent. Should a provision in the Central Agreement conflict with a provision in the Local Agreement, the provision in the Central Agreement, Central Term will apply.

C1.3 Parties

- a) The Parties to the collective agreement are the School Board and the employee bargaining agent.
- b) Central collective bargaining shall be conducted by the central Employer and employee bargaining agencies representing the local Parties.

C1.4 Single Collective Agreement

Central terms and local terms shall together constitute a single collective agreement.

C2.00 DEFINITIONS

C2.1 Unless otherwise specified, the following definitions shall apply only with respect to their usage in standard central terms. Where the same word is used in Part B of this collective agreement, the definition in that part, or any existing local interpretation shall prevail.

C2.2 The “Central Parties” shall be defined as the Employer bargaining agency, the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) and the employee bargaining agent, the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario (ETFO) (each being a “Central Party”).

C2.3 “Teacher” shall be defined as a permanent Teacher and specifically excludes Continuing Education Teachers, Long Term Occasional Teachers and Daily Occasional Teachers, unless otherwise specified.

C2.4 “Employee” shall be defined as per the *Employment Standards Act*.

C2.5 “Professional Judgement” shall be defined as judgement that is informed by professional knowledge of curriculum expectations, context, evidence of learning, methods of instruction and assessment, and the criteria and standards that indicate success in student

learning. In professional practice, judgement involves a purposeful and systematic thinking process that evolves in terms of accuracy and insight with ongoing reflection and self-correction.

C3.00 LENGTH OF TERM/NOTICE TO BARGAIN/RENEWAL

C3.1 Single Collective Agreement

The central and local terms of this collective agreement shall constitute a single collective agreement for all purposes.

C3.2 Term of Agreement

In accordance with Section 41(1) of the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, as amended, the term of this collective agreement, including central terms and local terms, shall be for a period of four (4) years from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2026 inclusive.

C3.3 Where Term Less Than Agreement Term

Where a provision of this collective agreement so provides, the provision shall be in effect for a term less than the term of the collective agreement.

C3.4 Term of Letters of Understanding

All central letters of understanding appended to this agreement, or entered into after the execution of this agreement shall, unless otherwise stated therein, form part of the collective agreement, run concurrently with it, and have the same termination date as the agreement.

C3.5 Amendment of Terms

In accordance with Section 42 of the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, as amended, the central terms of this agreement, excepting term, may be amended at any time during the life of the agreement upon mutual consent of the Central Parties and agreement of the Crown.

C3.6 Notice to Bargain

- a) Where central bargaining is required under the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, as amended notice to bargain centrally shall be in accordance with Sections 31 and 28 of that Act, and with Section 59 of the *Labour Relations Act*. For greater clarity:
- b) Notice to commence bargaining shall be given by a central party:
 - i. within 90 (ninety) days of the expiry of the collective agreement; or
 - ii. within such greater period agreed upon by the Parties; or
 - iii. within any greater period set by regulation by the Minister of Education.
- c) Notice to bargain centrally constitutes notice to bargain locally.

C4.00 CENTRAL GRIEVANCE PROCESS

The following process applies exclusively to grievances on central matters that have been referred to the central process. In accordance with the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, as amended, central matters may also be grieved locally, in which case local grievance processes will apply.

C4.1 Definitions

- a) A “grievance” shall be defined as any difference relating to the interpretation, application, administration, or alleged violation or arbitrability of an item concerning any central term of a collective agreement.
- b) The “Local Parties” shall be defined as the Board or the local ETFO bargaining unit party to a collective agreement.
- c) For the purpose of the Central Grievance Process only “days” shall mean school days.

C4.2 Central Dispute Resolution Committee

- a) There shall be established a Central Dispute Resolution Committee (CDRC), which shall be composed of two (2) representatives from each of the Central Parties and two (2) representatives from the Crown.
- b) The Committee shall meet within five (5) working days at the request of one of the Central Parties.

- c) The Central Parties shall each have the following rights:
 - i. To file a dispute as a grievance with the Committee.
 - ii. To engage in settlement discussions.
 - iii. To mutually settle a grievance in accordance with d)i. below.
 - iv. To withdraw a grievance.
 - v. To mutually agree to refer a grievance to the local grievance procedure.
 - vi. To mutually agree to voluntary mediation.
 - vii. To refer a grievance to final and binding arbitration at any time.
- d) The Crown shall have the following rights:
 - i. To give or withhold approval to any settlement by OPSBA.
 - ii. To participate in voluntary mediation.
 - iii. To intervene in any matter referred to arbitration.
- e) Only a central party may file a grievance and refer it to the Committee for discussion and review. No grievance can be referred to arbitration without three (3) days prior notice to the Committee.
- f) It shall be the responsibility of each central party to inform their respective local Parties of the Committee's disposition of the dispute at each step in the central dispute resolution process including mediation and arbitration, and to direct them accordingly.
- g) Each of the Central Parties shall be responsible for their own costs for the central dispute resolution process.

C4.3 The grievance shall specify:

- a) Any central provision of the collective agreement alleged to have been violated.
- b) The provision of any statute, regulation, policy, guideline, or directive at issue.
- c) A detailed statement of any relevant facts.
- d) The remedy requested.
- e) A grievance under this provision is not invalidated as a result of a technical deficiency under C4.3 a) b) c) or d), above.

C4.4 Referral to the Committee

- a) Prior to referral to the Committee, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the other local party.
- b) A central party shall refer the grievance to the CDRC by written notice to the other central party, with a copy to the Crown, but in no case later than forty (40) days after becoming aware of the dispute.
- c) The Committee shall complete its review within ten (10) days of the grievance being filed.

- d) If the grievance is not settled, withdrawn, or referred to the local grievance procedure by the Committee, the central party who has filed the grievance may, within a further ten (10) days, refer the grievance to arbitration.
- e) All timelines may be extended by mutual consent of the Central Parties.

C4.5 Mediation

- a) The Central Parties may, on mutual agreement, request the assistance of a mediator.
- b) Where the Central Parties have agreed to mediation, the remuneration and expenses of the person selected as mediator shall be shared equally between the Central Parties.
- c) Timelines shall be suspended for the period of mediation.

C4.6 Arbitration

- a) Arbitration shall be by a single arbitrator.
- b) The Central Parties shall select a mutually agreed upon arbitrator.
- c) Where the Central Parties are unable to agree upon an arbitrator within thirty (30) days of referral to arbitration, either central party may request that the Minister of Labour appoint an arbitrator.
- d) The Central Parties may refer multiple grievances to a single arbitrator.
- e) The remuneration and expenses of the arbitrator shall be shared equally between the Central Parties.

C5.00 BENEFITS

The Parties have agreed to participate in the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Employee Life and Health Trust established October 6, 2016 ("ETFO ELHT"). The date on which School Boards and the bargaining units commenced participation in the ETFO ELHT shall be referred to herein as the "Participation Date".

C5.1 ELHT Benefits

The Parties agree that since all active eligible employees have now transitioned to the ETFO ELHT all references to existing life, health and dental benefits plans in the applicable local collective agreement for active eligible employees shall be removed from that local agreement.

Post Participation Date, the following shall apply:

C5.2 Eligibility and Coverage

- a) The ETFO ELHT will maintain eligibility for ETFO represented employees who currently have benefits and any newly hired eligible employee covered by the local terms of the collective agreement ("ETFO represented employees").

- b) With the consent of the Central Parties, the ETFO ELHT is also permitted to provide coverage to other active employee groups in the education sector with the consent of their bargaining agents and Employer or, for non-union groups, in accordance with an agreement between the trustees and the applicable board. An eligible Employer is one with employees in the publicly funded elementary and secondary education sector in Ontario.
- c) Retirees who were previously represented by ETFO, and who were, and still are, members of a board benefit plan as at the Participation Date are eligible to receive benefits through the ETFO ELHT with funding based on prior arrangements.
- d) No individuals who retire after the Participation Date are eligible.
- e) Eligibility is limited to long-term occasional and permanent Teachers.

C5.3 Funding

- a) All funding in section c) shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - i. No net plan or administrative enhancements shall be made to the ETFO Benefits Plan over the term of the collective agreement. The ETFO ELHT trustees shall provide the sponsoring parties information and the cost of all plan changes and administrative changes at the ELHT's expense, within 30 days after their decision to make the change.
 - ii. Should net plan or administrative enhancements be made, funding outlined in section c) shall be reversed for that year beginning in the month that the enhancement was effective and frozen at that level for the remainder of the collective agreement.
 - iii. Should these net plan or administrative enhancements be reversed, funding shall be reinstated at the levels outlined in section c) beginning in the month that the plan enhancement was reversed.
- b) Effective September 1, 2022, the funding rate shall be set to \$6,174 per FTE.
- c) The funding rate shall be increased for inflation as follows on the following dates:
 - i. September 1, 2022: 1% (\$6,235.74)
 - ii. September 1, 2023: 1% (\$6,298.10)
 - iii. September 1, 2024: 1% (\$6,361.08)
 - iv. September 1, 2025: 1% (\$6,424.69)
 - v. August 31, 2026: 4% (\$6,681.68)

C5.4 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and Employer Contributions

- a) The FTE used to determine the board's benefits contributions shall be based on the estimated average FTE reported by the boards in the staffing schedule by Employee/Bargaining group as of October 31st and March 31st.
- b) Monthly amounts paid by the boards to the ETFO ELHT's administrator based on estimates FTE shall be reconciled by the Crown to the actual average FTE reported by the boards in the staffing schedule by Employee/Bargaining group for each school year ending August 31. If the reconciliation of FTE results in any identified differences in funding, those funds shall be remitted to or recovered from the ETFO ELHT in a lump sum upon collection from the ETFO ELHT administrator, but no later than 240 days after the School Boards' submission of final October FTE and March FTE counts.
- c) In the case of a dispute regarding the FTE used to determine the boards' benefits contributions to the ETFO ELHT, the dispute shall be resolved between the board and the local union represented by ETFO.
- d) For the purposes of section 7.3(b) of the ETFO ELHT Agreement and Declaration of Trust, the parties agree that the Trustees shall use the following calculation to determine the amount that ETFO will reimburse the school board for benefits contributions made by a school board to the ETFO ELHT during a period of strike or lock-out resulting in ETFO teachers withdrawing their full services:
 - i. the per FTE funding in effect during the period of strike or lockout multiplied by the estimated average ETFO FTE reported by the school board in the staffing schedule by Employee/Bargaining group as of October 31st and March 31st for the school year impacted by the strike or lock-out;
 - ii. Divide i) by 194 days;
 - iii. Multiply ii) by the number of strike or lockout days for ETFO teachers at the school board.

C5.5 Benefits Committee

A benefits committee comprised of equal representation from ETFO, OPSBA, the Crown, and ETFO ELHT shall convene upon request to address all matters that may arise in the operation of the ETFO ELHT.

C5.6 Privacy

The Parties agree to inform the ETFO ELHT administrator, that in accordance with applicable privacy legislation, it shall limit the collection, use and disclosure of personal information to information that is necessary for the purpose of providing benefits administration services. The ETFO ELHT benefits plan administrator's policy shall be based on the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).

C5.7 Benefits not provided by the ETFO ELHT

- a) Any further cost sharing or funding arrangements regarding the EI rebate as per previous local collective agreements in effect as of August 31, 2014 shall remain status quo.
- b) Where employee life, health and dental benefits coverage was previously provided by the boards for daily Occasional Teachers as term of the local collective agreement in effect as of August 31, 2014, the boards shall continue to make a plan available with the same funding arrangement.

C5.8 Payment in Lieu of Benefits

- a) All employees not transferred to the ETFO ELHT who received pay in lieu of benefits under a collective agreement in effect as of August 31, 2014, shall continue to receive a payment in lieu of benefits.
- b) New hires after the Participation Date who are eligible for benefits from the ETFO ELHT are not eligible for pay in lieu of benefits.

C5.9 Long Term Disability (Employee-Paid Plans)

- a) All permanent Teachers, including Teachers who are on an approved leave of absence, are eligible and shall participate in the long-term disability plan (LTD Plan) as a condition of employment, subject to the terms of the LTD Plan.
- b) The board shall cooperate in the administration of the LTD Plan. It is understood that administration means that the board will co-operate with the enrolment and deduction of premiums and provide available necessary data to the insurer, upon request. The board will remit premiums collected to the carrier on behalf of the Teachers.
- c) Where the plan administrator implements changes in the terms and conditions of the LTD Plan or the selection of an insurance carrier, the board shall, for administrative purposes, be advised of changes at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the changes are to be implemented.

C6.00 SICK LEAVE

C6.1 Sick Leave/Short Term Leave and Disability Plan

a) **Sick Leave Benefit Plan**

The Sick Leave Benefit Plan will provide sick leave days and short term disability days for reasons of personal illness, personal injury, including personal medical appointments and personal dental appointments. Routine medical and dental appointments will be scheduled outside of working hours where possible.

b) **Sick Leave Days**

Subject to paragraphs d)i-vi below, permanent full-time Teachers will be allocated eleven (11) sick days at one hundred percent (100%) salary in each school year. Teachers who are less than full-time shall have their sick leave allocation pro-rated.

c) **Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan (STLDP)**

Subject to paragraphs d)i-vi below, permanent full-time Teachers will be allocated one hundred and twenty (120) short-term disability days in September of each school year. Teachers who are less than full-time shall have their STLDP allocation pro-rated. Teachers eligible to access STLDP shall receive payment equivalent to ninety percent (90%) of regular salary.

d) **Eligibility and Allocation**

The allocations outlined in paragraphs b) and c) above, will be provided on the first day of each school year, subject to the restrictions outlined in d)i-vi below.

- i. A Teacher is eligible for the full allocation of sick leave and STLDP regardless of start date of employment or date of return to work from any leave other than sick leave, WSIB or LTD.
- ii. All allocations of sick leave and STLDP shall be pro-rated based on FTE at the start of the school year. Any changes in FTE during a school year shall result in an adjustment to allocations.
- iii. Where a Teacher is accessing sick leave, STLDP, WSIB or LTD in a school year and the absence due to the same illness or injury continues into the following school year, the Teacher will continue to access any unused sick leave days or STLDP days from the previous school year's allocation. Access to the new allocation provided as per paragraphs b) and c) for a recurrence of the same illness or injury will not be provided to the Teacher until the Teacher has completed eleven (11) consecutive working days at their full FTE without absence due to illness.
- iv. Where a Teacher is accessing STLDP, WSIB, or LTD in the current school year as a result of an absence due to the same illness or injury that continued from the previous school year and has returned to work at less than their FTE, the Teacher will continue to access any unused sick leave days or STLDP days from the previous school year's allocation. In the event that the Teacher exhausts their STLDP allotment and continues to work part-time their salary will be reduced accordingly and a new prorated sick leave and STLDP allocation will be provided. Any absences during the working portion of the day will not result in a loss of salary or further reduction in the previous year's sick leave allocation, but will instead be deducted from the new allocation once provided.
- v. A partial sick leave day or short-term disability day will be deducted for an absence of a partial day.
- vi. Where a permanent Teacher is not receiving benefits from another source and is working less than their full FTE in the course of a graduated return to work as

the Teacher recovers from an illness or injury, the Teacher may use any unused sick/short-term disability allocation remaining, if any, for the Teacher's FTE that the Teacher is unable to work due to illness or injury.

e) Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan Top-up

- i. Teachers accessing STLDP will have access to any unused Sick Leave Days from their last year worked for the purpose of topping up salary to one hundred percent (100%) under the STLDP.
- ii. This top-up is calculated as follows:

Eleven (11) days less the number of sick leave days used in the most recent year worked.
- iii. Each top-up from ninety percent (90%) to one hundred percent (100%) requires the corresponding fraction of a day available for top-up.
- iv. In addition to the top-up bank, top-up for compassionate reasons may be considered at the discretion of the board on a case by case basis. The top-up will not exceed two (2) days and is dependent on having two (2) unused Short Term Paid Leave Days in the current year. These days can be used to top-up salary under the STLDP.
- v. When Teachers use any part of an STLDP day they may access their top up bank to top up their salary to one hundred percent (100%).

f) Sick Leave and STLDP Eligibility and Allocation for Teachers in a Long-Term Occasional Assignment

Notwithstanding the parameters outlined above, the following shall apply to Teachers in a Long-Term Occasional assignment:

- i. Teachers in a Long-Term Occasional assignment of a full school year will be allocated eleven (11) days of sick leave at 100% of regular salary and one hundred and twenty (120) short-term disability days at the start of the assignment. Teachers who are less than full-time shall have their STLDP allocation pro-rated. Teachers eligible to access STLDP shall receive payment equivalent to ninety percent (90%) of regular salary.
- ii. Teachers in Long Term Occasional assignment of less than a full year, and/or less than full-time, shall have their allocation of sick leave and STLDP prorated on the basis of the number of work days in their Long Term Occasional assignment compared to one hundred and ninety-four (194) days in accordance with the allocation in (i) above.
- iii. Where the length of the Long-Term Occasional assignment is not known in advance, a projected length must be determined at the start of the assignment in order for the appropriate allocation of sick leave/STLDP to occur. If a change

is made to the length of the assignment or the FTE, an adjustment will be made to the allocation and applied retroactively.

- iv. A Long-Term Occasional Teacher who works more than one LTO assignment in the same school year may carry forward Sick leave and STLDP from one LTO assignment to the next, provided the assignments occur in the same school year.

g) Administration

- i. The Parties acknowledge that the board may require medical confirmation of illness or injury to substantiate access to sick leave or STLDP where there is a reasonable basis for concern, notwithstanding any other provision of the collective agreement. Medical confirmation may be required to be provided by the Teacher to access sick leave or STLDP.
- ii. The Board may require information to assess whether an employee is able to return to work and perform the essential duties of their position. Where this is required, such information shall include their limitations, restrictions and disability related needs to assess workplace accommodation as necessary (omitting a diagnosis).
- iii. A board decision to deny access to benefits under sick leave or STLDP will be made on a case-by-case basis and not based solely on a denial of LTD.
- iv. The Employer shall be responsible for any costs related to independent third-party medical assessments required by the Employer.

C7.00 CENTRAL LABOUR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- C7.1** OPSBA, the Crown and ETFO agree to establish a joint Central Labour Relations Committee to promote and facilitate communication between rounds of bargaining on issues of joint interest.
- C7.2** The Parties to the Committee shall meet within sixty (60) days of the completion of the current round of negotiations to agree on Terms of Reference for the Committee.
- C7.3** The Committee shall meet as agreed but a minimum of three (3) times in each school year.
- C7.4** The Parties to the Committee agree that any discussion at the Committee will be on a without prejudice and without precedent basis, unless agreed otherwise.

C8.00 MINISTRY/SCHOOL BOARD INITIATIVES

ETFO will be an active participant in the consultation process at the Ministry Initiatives Committee. The Ministry Initiatives Committee shall meet at least quarterly each year to discuss new initiatives, including implications for training and resources.

If a new or modified policy initiative is not discussed at the Ministry Initiatives Committee in advance of implementation, it will be discussed at the next meeting. Alternatively, the Crown will endeavor to provide an informational briefing to ETFO and OPSBA at another forum prior to the next Ministry Initiatives Committee, which may include other attendees at the discretion of the Crown.

At the local level School Boards and locals shall meet regarding:

- The development, implementation and evaluation of new ministry/School Board initiatives;
- The timing of new ministry/School Board initiatives;
- The integration of possible new ministry/School Board initiatives; and
- Training and professional learning requirements.

C9.00 DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT

- a) For the purposes of C9.00, the term “Teachers” shall include Occasional Teachers.
- b) Teachers shall use their professional judgement as defined in C2.5 above. The Parties agree that a Teacher’s professional judgement is the cornerstone of assessment and evaluation.
- c) Teachers’ professional judgement is further informed by using diagnostic assessment to identify a student’s needs and abilities and the student’s readiness to acquire the knowledge and skills outlined in the curriculum expectations. Information from diagnostic assessments helps Teachers determine where individual students are in their acquisition of knowledge and skills so that instruction is personalized and tailored to the appropriate next steps for learning. The ability to choose the appropriate assessment tool(s), as well as the frequency and timing of their administration allows the Teacher to gather data that is relevant, sufficient and valid in order to make judgements on student learning during the learning cycle.
 - i. Boards shall provide a list of pre-approved assessment tools consistent with their Board improvement plan for student achievement and the Ministry PPM.
 - ii. Teachers shall use their professional judgment to determine which assessment and/or evaluation tool(s) from the Board list of preapproved assessment tools is applicable, for which student(s), as well as the frequency and timing of the tool. In order to inform their instruction, Teachers must utilize diagnostic assessment during the school year.
- d) The results of diagnostic assessments shall not be used in any way in evaluating Teachers. No Teacher shall suffer discipline or discharge as a consequence of any diagnostic assessment results.

C10.00 STATUTORY LEAVES OF ABSENCE/SEB

C10.1 Family Medical Leave or Critical Illness Leave

- a) Family Medical Leave or Critical Illness leaves granted to a permanent Teacher or long-term Occasional Teacher under this Article shall be in accordance with the provisions of the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*, as amended.
- b) The Teacher will provide to the Employer such evidence as necessary to prove entitlement under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*, as amended.
- c) A Teacher contemplating taking such leave(s) shall notify the Employer of the intended date the leave is to begin and the anticipated date of return to active employment.
- d) Seniority and experience continue to accrue during such leave(s).
- e) Where a Teacher is on such leave(s), the Employer shall continue to pay its share of the benefit premiums, where applicable. To maintain participation and coverage under the Collective Agreement, the Teacher must agree to provide payment for the Teacher's share of the benefit premiums, where applicable.
- f) In order to receive pay for such leaves, a Teacher must access Employment Insurance (EI) and the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) in accordance with g) to j), if allowable by legislation. An employee who is eligible for EI is not entitled to benefits under a School Board's sick leave and short term disability plan.

Family Medical Leave or Critical Illness Leave Supplemental Employment Benefits (SEB)

- g) The Employer shall provide for permanent Teachers and long-term Occasional Teachers who access such Leaves, a SEB plan to top up their EI Benefits. The Teacher who is eligible for such leave shall receive 100% salary for a period not to exceed eight (8) weeks provided the period falls within the school year and during a period for which the permanent Teacher would normally be paid. The SEB plan pay will be the difference between the gross amount the Teacher receives from EI and their regular gross pay.
- h) Long Term Occasional Teachers are eligible for the SEB plan with the length of the benefit limited by the term of the assignment.
- i) SEB payments are available only to supplement EI benefits during the absence period as specified in this plan.
- j) The Teacher must provide the Board with proof that they have applied for and are in receipt of employment insurance benefits in accordance with the *Employment Insurance Act*, as amended, before SEB is payable.

C10.2 Pregnancy Leave

- a) The Employer shall provide for permanent and long-term occasional Teachers a SEB plan to top up their EI Benefits. The Teacher who is eligible for such leave shall receive 100% of salary for not less than eight (8) weeks of pregnancy leave less any amount received under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*, as amended, during such period. There shall be no deduction from sick leave or the Short Term Leave Disability Program (STLDP).
- b) Teachers not eligible for EI Benefits or the SEB plan will receive 100% of salary from the Employer for a total of not less than eight (8) weeks with no deduction from sick leave or STLDP.
- c) Teachers filling a long-term assignment shall be entitled to the benefits outlined in a) above, with the length of the SEB limited by the term of the assignment.
- d) Teachers on daily casual assignments are not entitled to pregnancy leave benefits unless they were previously entitled under the provisions of the 2008-12 collective agreement or the last collective agreement concluded between the Parties.
- e) The Teacher must provide the Board with proof that they have applied for and are in receipt of EI Benefits in accordance with the *Employment Insurance Act*, as amended, before SEB is payable.
- f) Eligible Teachers shall receive the pregnancy leave benefits herein for the entire eight (8) week period throughout the course of the entire calendar year regardless of whether the Teacher would otherwise be required to work during the eight (8) week period (i.e. during summer, March and Winter breaks etc.). Payment shall be made to the Teacher in accordance with the School Board's payroll procedure.
- g) Teachers who require a longer than eight (8) week recuperation period shall have access to sick leave and the STDLP.
- h) If a Teacher begins pregnancy leave while on an approved leave from the Employer, the above pregnancy leave benefits provisions apply.

C11.00 CLASS SIZE/STAFFING LEVELS

The board will make every effort to limit FDK/Grade 1 split grades where feasible.

APPENDIX A – RETIREMENT GRATUITIES

A. Sick Leave Credit-Based Retirement Gratuities

- 1) A Teacher is not eligible to receive a sick leave credit gratuity after August 31, 2012, except a sick leave credit gratuity that the Teacher had accumulated and was eligible to receive as of that day.
- 2) If the Teacher is eligible to receive a sick leave credit gratuity, upon the Teacher's retirement, the gratuity shall be paid out at the lesser of,
 - a) the rate of pay specified by the board's system of sick leave credit gratuities that applied to the Teacher on August 31, 2012; and
 - b) the Teacher's salary as of August 31, 2012.
- 3) If a sick leave credit gratuity is payable upon the death of a Teacher, the gratuity shall be paid out in accordance with subsection (2).
- 4) For greater clarity, all eligibility requirements must have been met as of August 31, 2012 to be eligible for the aforementioned payment upon retirement, and the Employer and Union agree that any and all wind-up payments to which Teachers without the necessary years of service were entitled to under Ontario Regulation 01/13: *Sick Leave Credits and Sick Leave Credit Gratuities*, have been paid.
- 5) For the purposes of the following boards, despite anything in the board's system of sick leave credit gratuities, it is a condition of eligibility to receive a sick leave credit gratuity that the Teacher have ten (10) years of service with the board:
 - i. Near North District School Board
 - ii. Avon Maitland District School Board
 - iii. Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
 - iv. Limestone District School Board

B. Other Retirement Gratuities

A Teacher is not eligible to receive any non-sick leave credit retirement gratuity (such as, but not limited to, service gratuities or RRSP contributions) after August 31, 2012.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #1

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

RE: Sick Leave

The Parties agree that any current local collective agreement provisions and/or Board policies/practices/procedures related to Sick Leave that do not conflict with the clauses in the Sick Leave article in the Central Agreement shall remain as per August 31, 2019.

Such issues include but are not limited to:

1. Requirements for the provision of an initial medical document.
2. Responsibility for payment for medical documents.

The Parties agree that attendance support programs are not included in the terms of this Letter of Agreement.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #2

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Task Force on the Utilization of Sick Leave

The parties and the Crown agree to establish a task force to review data and explore leading practices related to utilization of sick leave.

The Crown will facilitate the meetings of the task force. The task force will be composed of members of ETFO and OPSBA, with members of the Ministry of Education serving in a resource and support capacity. Members from other employee bargaining agencies will be invited to participate, with the intention of creating separate teacher and education worker sector-wide task forces. There shall be an equal number of representatives of all participating groups.

The task force shall meet 4 times per school year, in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

The task force will:

1. gather and explore data, by unionized job classifications, on the utilization of sick leave and short-term disability;
2. gather and review information including but not restricted to the following:
 - a. a jurisdictional scan on sick leave and short-term disability plans;
 - b. best practices relating to safe return to work
3. discuss factors contributing to sick leave and short-term disability usage in the education sector;
4. report its findings to school boards and ETFO.

The task force shall complete its work by August 31, 2025.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #3

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Violence Prevention Health and Safety Training

Effective in the 2023-24 school year and each subsequent year of the collective agreement, mandatory violence prevention health and safety training will be provided in a timely manner on one or more PA Days to permanent and long-term occasional teachers. Where daily occasional teachers are scheduled to work on a PA Day when this training is provided they will participate. This will include the following topics: Online Violent Incident Reporting, Safe Schools Reporting, and Notification of Potential Risk of Injury.

The parties recommend that material produced by the Provincial Working Group on Health and Safety, including the Roadmap Resource, be used as resource material for this training.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #4

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Professional Activity (PA) Days

The Parties confirm that there will continue to be seven (7) PA days in each school year during the term of this collective agreement.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #5

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Occasional Teacher Ability to Lock the Classroom Door

School Boards will continue to ensure that Occasional Teachers have the ability to lock and unlock the classroom door.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #6

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

RE: Employment Insurance (EI) Rebate

The Parties agree that where the EI rebate is used to fund extended health care benefits, it is connected to the central issue of benefits, and is therefore status quo until August 31, 2026. This agreement is without prejudice to grievances outstanding, and local agreements in effect, as of the date of ratification of the central agreement.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #7

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

RE: Status Quo Central Items

Status quo central items

The Parties agree that the following central issues have been addressed at the central table and that the provisions shall remain status quo. For further clarity, if language exists, the following items are to be retained as written in the 2019-2022 local collective agreements. As such the following issues shall not be subject to local bargaining or mid-term amendment between local Parties. Disputes arising in respect of such provisions shall be subject to Section 43 of the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, as amended.

Issues:

- Short-term paid leave (number of days)
- Qualification allowances including extra degree allowances
- FDK Model
- Preparation Time (number of minutes)
- Student supervision (number of minutes)
- Release time related to violent incidents

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #8

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Individual Education Plans

To best meet the needs of all students, school boards will consider a number of factors when establishing class lists, including the workload related to IEPs.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #9

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Support for Students Committee

The Parties agree to recirculate the Final Report of the Support for Students Committee (June 2, 2021) established through Letter of Agreement #9 of ETFO's 2019-2022 Teacher/Occasional Teacher Central Agreement. The Crown will distribute the report to School Boards within sixty (60) days following the date of ratification of the central terms.

A provincial committee will be established with representatives comprised of:

- the Ministry of Education;
- OPSBA/School Boards; and
- ETFO

Using the three areas of focus in the *Final Report of the Support for Students Committee*, this committee shall meet to gather and identify examples of best practices across school boards.

The committee will strive to complete its work in time for the beginning of the 2024-25 school year. The compilation of best practices shall be shared with School Boards immediately thereafter.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #10

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Provincial Working Group - Health and Safety

The Parties confirm their commitment to continuing to participate in the Provincial Working Group - Health and Safety in accordance with the Terms of Reference dated May 25, 2016, including Appendix B as amended on November 7, 2018, and any further amendments to the Terms of Reference as may be agreed to from time to time.

The purpose of the working group is to consider areas related to health and safety in order to continue to build and strengthen a culture of health and safety mindedness in the education sector.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #11

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Violent Incident Debriefing Training

The Parties acknowledge that the 2018 *Violent Incident Debriefing Training Module*, developed by the Ontario Education Services Corporation for the Ministry of Education, includes leading practices in debriefing after a critical incident.

Within sixty (60) days following the date of ratification of the central terms, the Crown will recirculate the *Violent Incident Debriefing Training Module* to School Boards that employ teachers represented by ETFO.

School Boards may adopt Checklist 1 – Immediate Staff Debriefing Following a Critical Violent Incident and Checklist 2 -Follow-up Staff Debriefing Following a Critical Violent Incident from the *Violent Incident Debriefing Training Module* upon mutual agreement between the local parties.

School Boards are encouraged to consult with the Joint Health and Safety Committee on how this training will be provided to ETFO Teachers during the term of this collective agreement.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #12

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Violence Prevention in School Boards

The parties and the Crown agree that the scope of the work of the Provincial Working Group - Health and Safety (PWGHS) will continue to include violence prevention in schools.

The current Terms of Reference requires a minimum of 4 meetings per year, which can be amended based on the consensus of the work group.

The parties will jointly recommend to the PWGHS the following:

1. Violence prevention shall be prioritized as a topic for discussion.
2. The PWGHS will collect and review:
 - a. how data regarding violent incidents is gathered and shared.
 - b. how safety plans are created and updated and who is involved.
 - c. how and when risk assessments and reassessments are conducted and who is involved.
 - d. how school boards are sharing information regarding the potential risk of violence which is likely to expose the worker to physical injury, relative to the practices outlined in [Workplace Violence in School Boards: A Guide to the Law](#).

The data collected by the Provincial Working Group - Health and Safety will identify best practices, which may be used to update the [Workplace Violence in School Boards: A Guide to the Law](#) to share with school boards by August 31, 2026.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #13

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Integration of Students

The Parties believe in addressing the needs of all learners and recognize that student needs vary on an individual basis. The Parties believe that a variety of placement and support options assist in meeting the unique needs of individual learners.

The Parties recognize that preparation prior to a student from a special education class being integrated into a regular classroom can contribute to positive outcomes for the student. That preparation may include, but is not limited to:

- the review of the Ontario Student Record (OSR);
- the creation and/or review of a safety plan and/or behavior plan; and
- other program planning necessary for the successful inclusion of a student with special needs.

Furthermore, any known required resources or technology shall be in place prior to the commencement of the student's integration into a regular classroom except in extenuating circumstances.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #14

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Hybrid Instruction

Hybrid instruction is defined as providing synchronous instruction to students in-person and remotely simultaneously.

The Parties acknowledge that in-person instruction is preferred over hybrid instruction and provides better outcomes for most students.

Teachers will not be required to provide hybrid instruction for a student who is absent from in-person class for discretionary reasons.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #15

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Hiring Practices

The Parties acknowledge that successful teaching experience within the school board, including daily and long-term occasional experience, is valuable in the hiring process.

Teaching experience within the school board will be a factor considered in accordance with Ministry and school board policies in the selection of a successful candidate for a position as a long-term occasional teacher.

Where a candidate is unsuccessful in the hiring process, and requests feedback, it will be provided within 30 days of the interview.

Related provisions in Part B of the collective agreement shall remain in effect.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #16

BETWEEN

**The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
(hereinafter called the 'ETFO')**

AND

**The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
(hereinafter called 'OPSBA')**

AND

The Crown

RE: Safe Teaching and Learning Environments

The parties agree that safe teaching and learning environments is a shared goal. In addition, the parties acknowledge that appropriate conduct in schools is essential for successful educational outcomes and a positive school climate. A positive school climate includes expectations that everyone actively promotes and demonstrates positive behaviours and interactions, to create, foster and sustain a school community that is safe, inclusive, and accepting for all.

Within 60 days of the ratification of the Central Terms, the Crown, ETFO, and OPSBA will meet to revise PPM 128: The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct.

The parties agree to establish a requirement for schools to have publicly facing signage that communicates behaviour expectations for everyone that are consistent with a safe learning and teaching environment.

Following these discussions, School Boards and Locals shall meet and discuss how the expectations in the code of conduct are communicated to staff, students, other members of the school community, and visitors.

The parties will develop recommendations for the Crown regarding the content of the signage related to the code of conduct that will be shared with school boards. The signage will be shared with the parties prior to the distribution to school boards.

The Crown commits to have the revisions to PPM 128 completed prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year.

The Crown shall endeavour to ensure that the publicly facing signage is distributed to school boards to be posted in schools and board head offices prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year.

ETFO TEACHERS – PART B: LOCAL TERMS

ARTICLE 1 - PURPOSE

- 1.1 It is the purpose and intent of the parties to set forth terms and conditions of employment and other related provisions and to provide for the equitable settlement of all matters in dispute which may arise between the parties.
- 1.2 Any amendments, deletions, additions and deviations to or in the clauses shall be made only by mutual consent of the parties in writing.
- 1.3 Both parties shall be bound by the Education Act, the Employment Standards Act, the Ontario Human Rights Code, and any other prevailing statutes governing education and employment in Ontario and Canada and the regulations there under.
- 1.4 Where legislation changes are made which directly affect any provisions of this agreement, upon request of either party, a meeting will be held to discuss clarification of the implications of the legislative changes.

ARTICLE 2 - MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

- 2.1 The Board retains the rights of management except as expressly limited by this collective agreement, including but not restricted to:
 - a) the right to hire, assign, appoint, suspend, promote, classify, create or remove positions.
 - b) the right to make, alter from time to time and enforce practices and procedures to be observed by the members. Such practices and procedures shall not be contrary to the terms of this agreement. Any exercise of this right which changes a practice or procedure shall be communicated to the Bargaining Unit before implementation of the proposed change(s).
 - c) the right to operate the schools in accordance with the Education Act of Ontario and the laws of Ontario and require all members to comply with same.
 - d) the right to discipline or discharge a member for just cause.

ARTICLE 3 - SCOPE AND RECOGNITION

- 3.1 The employer being the Algoma District School Board (herein after referred to as the Board) recognizes the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) (hereinafter referred to as the Union) as the Bargaining Agent for all members employed by the Board in its elementary panel save and except occasional teachers.
- 3.2 The Union will inform the Board from time to time of the names of those who are authorized to act on behalf of the Union.
- 3.3 A member shall be defined as a person who is certified to teach by the Ontario College of Teachers, a member of the Bargaining Unit and employed by the Algoma District School Board. Such a member may be on an approved leave of absence or seconded for periods of time for other duties.

ARTICLE 4 - QUALIFICATIONS

- 4.1 A member is qualified to teach if they hold appropriate certification as determined by the Ontario College of Teachers and the Acts and Regulations.

ARTICLE 5 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 5.1 A member will have access to the Human Resources personnel file upon request during normal office hours and in the presence of a Board designated representative.
- 5.2 The member will have the right to make copies of any material contained in such file or a member may designate in writing, a member from the Bargaining Unit to view or copy the file on behalf of the member.
- 5.3 The member may be charged reasonable costs for said copies at the discretion of the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources.
- 5.4 The member may be accompanied by one other person who shall have access to the information contained in the file. Where a member authorizes in writing access to the Human Resources personnel file by another person acting on the member's behalf, the Board shall provide such access, as well as copies of materials contained therein, if also authorized and requested.
- 5.5 Nothing adverse shall be inserted into the Human Resources personnel file without copies being sent to the member. The member has the right to request removal of adverse materials from the file.

- 5.6 The Board will not unreasonably deny a member's access to the Human Resources personnel file.

ARTICLE 6 - PROBATIONARY PERIOD

- 6.1 A newly hired member shall serve a probationary period of two (2) years or to the completion of NTIP, whichever is first.
- 6.2 A newly hired member who has at least two (2) years experience in the four (4) years preceding hiring in another Ontario school board, shall serve a probationary period of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 7 - RESIGNATION FROM EMPLOYMENT

- 7.1 A member shall notify the Board in writing by November 30th of the member's intent to resign or retire effective December 31st.
- 7.2 A member shall notify the Board in writing by February 28th of the member's intent to resign or retire effective March 31st.
- 7.3 A member shall notify the Board no later than March 1st of the member's intent to resign or retire effective the end of that school year.
- 7.4 In accordance with the deadlines contained in 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3, a member who accepts a position which is not an occasional position with another school board, shall within 72 hours submit their written resignation to the Algoma District School Board.
- 7.5 Nothing herein prevents the member and the Board from mutually agreeing to a member's retirement or resignation at any time.
- 7.6 Notwithstanding clauses 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5, members eligible for retirement gratuity or service gratuity in this collective agreement must comply with resignation/retirement notice deadlines contained in those Articles.

ARTICLE 8 - SENIORITY

- 8.1 The ADSB Elementary Seniority list will be governed by the following:

- a) Names of newly employed members shall be placed on the seniority list at the first opportunity. These members shall accumulate seniority from the first day they are required to report to work as a member under this collective agreement and an employee of the Algoma District School Board.
- b) The seniority list shall contain all members covered by this collective agreement in decreasing order of seniority
- c) Seniority shall be defined as a member's length of continuous employment with the Board in the elementary panel and shall accrue during the probationary period, paid leaves of absence such as Professional Leave, Department of National Defense (DND) and LTD, Political Leave, Federation Leave, Maternity and Adoption Leave, and special leave approved by the Board, except leave for a teacher who would otherwise have been laid off as per Article 21.
- d) Where seniority in 8.1 is equal the relative seniority status of each teacher will be determined by the following factors:
 - i. All employment as an elementary teacher under permanent or probationary contract with a predecessor board(s) (Central Algoma, Chapleau, Hornepayne, Michipicoten, North Shore, Sault Ste. Marie) and the Algoma District School Board not already in 8.1 above in determination of seniority.
 - ii. Employment as a teacher in an occasional, long term or permanent capacity with the Algoma District School Board.
 - iii. Other employment as an elementary teacher under a permanent or probationary contract in Ontario.
 - iv. Employment as a secondary school teacher under a probationary or permanent contract with a predecessor board(s) (Central Algoma, Chapleau, Hornepayne, Michipicoten, North Shore, Sault Ste. Marie) and the Algoma District School Board.
 - v. Other employment as a secondary school teacher under a permanent or probationary contract in Ontario.
 - vi. Other employment as a teacher under a probationary or permanent contract in Canada.
 - vii. Other employment as a certified teacher.

viii. Lot conducted jointly by the parties.

e) Members shall be required to submit proof of other employment as outlined in 8.1.d.i) to 8.1.d.vi) within 30 days of commencement of employment in order to have such employment counted towards placement on the seniority list.

8.2 Members on the seniority list shall accumulate one year of seniority for each year of employment as an elementary teacher with the Board.

8.3 Members with a partial timetable shall be considered fully employed for the purposes of seniority.

8.4 A seniority list will be posted by the Board in each school and workplace by November 30th. Any questions as to the accuracy of the seniority list must be submitted to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources and the President of the local ETFO in writing within 45 days of the posting of the list. Failure to submit written objection within the specified time period shall result in the seniority dates being deemed correct.

8.5 Deletions from the Seniority List

a) A member's name shall be deleted from the Seniority List when:

- i) the member leaves the employ of the board;
- ii) the member is laid off and selects severance instead of recall;
- iii) the member's rights to recall have expired;
- iv) the member is released for reasons other than layoff.
- v) the member has died.

ARTICLE 9 - METHOD OF PAYMENT

9.1 As of September 3, 2003, members received 3.84615% of the annual salary and will continue to receive 3.84615% of the annual salary on every second Wednesday thereafter. (100% of salary to be paid to the member by August 31st of each school year.)

9.2 a) In the event of an overpayment of salary, the parties agree that the amount of overpayment will be repaid to the Board within twelve months from notification or by the date upon which the employee ceases to work (such as termination, retirement, resignations, lay-off, leave of absence) whichever comes first. Payment(s) will be made in equal biweekly installments of a minimum of \$100.00 per pay.

- b) In the event of underpayment of salary by the Board, the parties agree that the amount of underpayment will be paid to the member on the next regularly scheduled pay date.

9.3 a) The Board will provide direct deposit of salary for all members covered by this Collective Agreement to a bank or credit union within the jurisdictional area of the Board, according to the member's choice.

- b) If a member leaves the employ of the Board due to retirement or resignation before the end of the current pay year (August 31st) or takes pregnancy or parental leave during the current pay year, any outstanding remuneration due to the member will be calculated based on the member's daily rate of pay. The member shall be paid a salary according to the following formula:

$$\text{Annual Salary} \quad \times \quad \frac{\text{number of days which the member has worked}}{\text{total number of school days in the school year}}$$

Members retiring will receive any outstanding salary by their approved retirement date.

- c) Where a statutory holiday falls on a pay day, the Board shall pay on the last regular banking day prior to the statutory holiday.

ARTICLE 10 - UNION DUES

10.1 The Board will deduct for every pay period and for each member covered by this collective agreement, union dues, local levies and assessments. Dues and assessments deducted in accordance with this Article will be forwarded to the General Secretary of ETFO within thirty (30) days of the dues being deducted. The union shall inform the Board from time to time, of the amount of such dues, local levies, and assessments.

- a) The payment shall be accompanied by a dues submission list showing the names, addresses, wages earned and dues, local levies, and assessments deducted.

b) The current address of ETFO is 136 Isabella Street, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 0B5

- c) The Union will inform the Board of any change in address for ETFO.

10.2 The member, the Bargaining Unit, and ETFO as the case may be, will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any claims, suits, attachments, and any form of liability as a result of deductions authorized by ETFO and/or the Bargaining Unit.

ARTICLE 11 - EXPENSES

- 11.1 The Board will reimburse a member for approved expenses connected with an educational or teaching conference, convention, workshop or course or Board sponsored professional development activity attended by the member, at the request of the Board. It is expected that, where possible, members will carpool.
- 11.2 A member who is required to travel between schools as part of their teaching assignment shall be paid for such travel according to Board Policy.
- 11.3 In respect to other travel authorized by the Board, a member shall receive kilometrage from the Board in accordance with Board policy. It is expected that, where possible, members will carpool.

ARTICLE 12 - VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS

- 12.1 The Board will recognize for category placement the current QECO Programme and the placement of members in their respective salary category will be determined in accordance with current QECO Programme.
- 12.2 The only statement acceptable for verification of category placement are:
- a) QECO Statements of Evaluation; or
 - b) Student Evaluation Letters when accompanied by a valid Certificate of Qualification from the Ontario College of Teachers for teaching credentials earned in Ontario; or
 - c) QECO Letters of Evaluation for Teachers on Interim Certificates of Qualification based on Teaching Credentials Earned Out of Province:
 - d) Teachers employed by the Board effective September 2001 or later, who have an Interim Certificate of Qualification as provided by the Ontario College of Teachers for teaching credentials earned out of province, will be placed in the salary category for which they are eligible as determined by the Letter of Evaluation as provided by QECO.
 - e) Such salary placement based upon this documentation will be effective the first day of the month following Board receipt of the Letter of Evaluation and will be for a period not to exceed twelve (12) calendar months after the effective date of appointment. These twelve (12) months will be extended for an appropriate period for member(s) who are part time.

- 12.3 It is the member(s) responsibility to provide verification of category placement to the Board.
- 12.4 The Bargaining Unit recognizes the right of the Board to request the member to submit proof of the basis upon which QECO granted the Statement or Letter of Evaluation, but only in such cases where that basis is not clear to the Board.
- 12.5 The Board will recognize during any school year to January 31st, inclusive, or within five (5) months of the date of first appointment, should it be later than the beginning of the school year, the evaluation statement which makes the member eligible for higher salary retroactive to the beginning of the school year, or later date of first appointment, provided that the member has completed educational responsibilities and requirements for upgrading prior to September 30th.
- 12.6 If the verification of category placement documents for courses completed prior to September 30th, are provided after January 31st, any salary adjustment will be effective the month following verification.
- 12.7 A member once placed on the grid in the member's salary category will be paid at that category whether or not the member is teaching the subject(s) making the member eligible for that category.
- 12.8 A member who qualifies for a higher salary by completing educational requirements after September 30th of any school year, will be paid the higher salary in that category effective the following school year upon verification of necessary documentation.
- 12.9 The category for those members employed by the Board on January 7, 1999 will continue to be recognized by the Board subject to alteration as a result of future changes in a member's qualifications.

ARTICLE 13 - TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 13.1 The total teaching experience accumulated by a member and recognized by the Board for placement on the grid on July 1, 1998 shall not be subject to revision and shall be the basis for further accumulation of teaching experience for grid purposes in subsequent years.
- 13.2 Full-time teaching experience as a certified teacher in or outside of Ontario in secondary or elementary schools will be recognized at a one-to-one ratio to the end of June of the previous school year in accordance with the salary schedule.

It is the member's responsibility to supply necessary documentation to the satisfaction of the Board.

- 13.3 For members hired effective after January 7, 1999, part-year or occasional teaching experience as a certified teacher with an Ontario School Board will be recognized by the Board. An allowance for part-year teaching experience will be paid giving salary credit as the number of days worked by the Teacher divided by the number of instructional days plus the number of Professional Activity days designated by the Ministry of Education.

If an Occasional Teacher completes a year Long Term Occasional position, it is recognized as a full year of experience credit.

Proof of such teaching experience must be certified by the Board with which the experience was gained and be submitted in a manner acceptable to the Algoma District School Board.

Proven occasional and credit-granting continuing education Teaching Experience, acceptable to the Board, as a Certified Teacher shall be recognized for placement on the Wage Grid as the number of days worked by the Teacher divided by the number of instructional days plus the number of Professional Activity days designated by the Ministry of Education.

- 13.4 Members covered by this collective agreement shall have part time teaching experience which occurs after September 1,1998 and which is with the Algoma District School Board recognized for placement on the salary grid at a rate of 1/10 of a year's experience as the number of days worked by the Teacher divided by the number of instructional days plus the number of Professional Activity days designated by the Ministry of Education.

- 13.5 The effective date for receipt of experience allowances shall be the beginning of the school year except as provided below:

In the event a new member fails to provide verification of experience by January 31st inclusive, or within five (5) months of the date of appointment should it be later than the beginning of the school year, any salary adjustment resulting from verification of experience within that school year shall be effective in the month following such certification.

- 13.6 Recognition of experience shall not have the effect of a total salary for any member that would pierce the maximum annual salary for the appropriate category level or grid.

13.7 New Hires

- a) For payroll purposes, the onus shall be on the member to provide verification of qualification, eligibility and experience in the case of first appointment with this Board, together with other documentary requirements prescribed by the Board, by August 1st, if the effective date of employment is the beginning of the next school year. Such information shall form the basis of the September salary payments.
- b) A member who enters employment with the Board after the beginning of the school year shall be paid the salary for which the member is eligible at the time of employment prorated for time worked based on the verification of qualifications, eligibility and experience documentation provided by the member.

ARTICLE 14 - ALLOWANCES

a) Board Wide Allowances: Co-Ordinators, Consultants and Extra Degree Allowance

All members with system wide responsibilities appointed by the Board will also be paid an annual allowance in addition to their grid salary, as shown in Article 15 "Salaries and Area Allowances" (percentage increase to apply to all allowances).

b) Extra Degree Allowance

- i) An allowance of \$967.00 shall be paid to all members of the Bargaining Unit who hold a post graduate degree at the Canadian Masters Level, or equivalent, or, an allowance of \$1423.00 will be paid to all members of the Bargaining Unit who hold a post graduate degree at the Canadian Doctoral Level, or equivalent, so long as these degrees, according to QECO evaluation, are not being used for grid placement. This allowance will have the effect of piercing the maxima of the salary grid for those members eligible to receive this allowance.
- ii) A member claiming this allowance will be required to furnish proof to the satisfaction of the Board.
- iii) Payment of the allowance will be made retroactive to September 1st or the first date of appointment provided satisfactory proof is submitted by January 31st inclusive or within five (5) months from the date of appointment should it be later than the beginning of the school year and provided that the member has completed the requirements for the extra degree prior to September 30th.
- iv) In the event that a member fails to provide satisfactory proof by January 31st inclusive or within five (5) months of their date of appointment should it be later than the beginning of the school year, any salary adjustment resulting from such allowance will be effective the month following such verification.

ARTICLE 15 - SALARIES AND AREA ALLOWANCES

15.1 Salary Grids

ELEMENTARY TEACHER SALARY GRID SEPTEMBER 01, 2022

	A	A1	A2	A3	A4
YEAR					
0	47,415	51,233	52,914	57,735	60,901
1	50,555	54,826	56,731	61,779	65,041
2	53,689	58,414	60,556	65,825	69,183
3	56,828	62,013	64,383	69,876	73,330
4	59,966	65,610	68,199	73,923	77,469
5	63,105	69,207	72,020	77,969	81,609
6	66,243	72,803	75,845	82,016	85,750
7	69,383	76,392	79,664	86,063	89,889
8	72,520	79,992	83,483	90,104	94,031
9	75,657	83,583	87,308	94,154	98,170
10	78,795	87,182	91,134	98,203	102,313
11	83,179	87,182	91,134	102,248	106,454
12	87,182	87,182	91,134	102,248	110,591

COORDINATOR ALLOWANCE 7,532
CONSULTANT'S ALLOWANCE 6,511

ELEMENTARY TEACHER SALARY GRID SEPTEMBER 01, 2023

	A	A1	A2	A3	A4
YEAR					
0	48,837	52,770	54,501	59,467	62,728
1	52,072	56,471	58,433	63,632	66,992
2	55,300	60,166	62,373	67,800	71,258
3	58,533	63,873	66,314	71,972	75,530
4	61,765	67,578	70,245	76,141	79,793
5	64,998	71,283	74,181	80,308	84,057
6	68,230	74,987	78,120	84,476	88,323
7	71,464	78,684	82,054	88,645	92,586
8	74,696	82,392	85,987	92,807	96,852
9	77,927	86,090	89,927	96,979	101,115
10	81,159	89,797	93,868	101,149	105,382
11	85,674	89,797	93,868	105,315	109,648
12	89,797	89,797	93,868	105,315	113,909

COORDINATOR ALLOWANCE 7,532
CONSULTANT'S ALLOWANCE 6,511

ELEMENTARY TEACHER SALARY GRID SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

	A	A1	A2	A3	A4
YEAR					
0	50,180	54,221	56,000	61,102	64,453
1	53,504	58,024	60,040	65,382	68,834
2	56,821	61,821	64,088	69,665	73,218
3	60,143	65,630	68,138	73,951	77,607
4	63,464	69,436	72,177	78,235	81,987
5	66,785	73,243	76,221	82,516	86,369
6	70,106	77,049	80,268	86,799	90,752
7	73,429	80,848	84,310	91,083	95,132
8	76,750	84,658	88,352	95,359	99,515
9	80,070	88,457	92,400	99,646	103,896
10	83,391	92,266	96,449	103,931	108,280
11	88,030	92,266	96,449	108,211	112,663
12	92,266	92,266	96,449	108,211	117,041

COORDINATOR ALLOWANCE 7,532
CONSULTANT'S ALLOWANCE 6,511

ELEMENTARY TEACHER SALARY GRID SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

	A	A1	A2	A3	A4
YEAR					
0	51,435	55,577	57,400	62,630	66,064
1	54,842	59,475	61,541	67,017	70,555
2	58,242	63,367	65,690	71,407	75,048
3	61,647	67,271	69,841	75,800	79,547
4	65,051	71,172	73,981	80,191	84,037
5	68,455	75,074	78,127	84,579	88,528
6	71,859	78,975	82,275	88,969	93,021
7	75,265	82,869	86,418	93,360	97,510
8	78,669	86,774	90,561	97,743	102,003
9	82,072	90,668	94,710	102,137	106,493
10	85,476	94,573	98,860	106,529	110,987
11	90,231	94,573	98,860	110,916	115,480
12	94,573	94,573	98,860	110,916	119,967

COORDINATOR ALLOWANCE	7,532
CONSULTANT'S ALLOWANCE	6,511

15.2 Area Allowances

- a) In addition to the member’s grid salary as determined by the member’s qualification and experience, member(s) assigned to schools within the following geographic areas shall be paid the appropriate geographic area allowance:

Area	Sept. 1 2022 to Sept. 1 2026
Central Algoma	604
Chapleau	2,418
Hornepayne	3,626
Michipicoten	1,814
North Shore	1,210

ARTICLE 16 - BENEFIT PLANS

Refer to C5.00 of the Central Agreement

16.1 Reinstatement

The Board agrees to reinstate with all seniority rights a member returning from a period of Long-Term Disability, provided that the applicant is capable of meeting the essential duties of the job as certified by a qualified medical practitioner approved by the Board and meets the qualification requirements of the job.

ARTICLE 17 - STAFFING

17.1 The Board will staff elementary schools in accordance with the Education Act and Ontario Regulations governing class sizes.

17.2 Nothing prevents the Board from providing additional staff for a school based upon local circumstances and the needs of the students.

17.3 Elementary Students Taught by ETFO Members:

Where students are in elementary school programs, and the physical location of the class/grades normally considered to be in elementary schools changes, those students will continue to be taught the elementary curriculum by elementary teachers who shall retain membership in ETFO.

- 17.4 Members who have partial contracts established with a schedule at a school may be asked to switch their schedule for PD or any other Board/ Ministry initiative and may choose to do so at their discretion.

ARTICLE 18 - WORKING CONDITIONS

18.1 Preparation Time

- 18.1.1 Preparation time shall be used for professional activities as determined by the teacher, and shall be assigned only during the Instructional Day, as defined in Article 18.6.
- 18.1.2 In addition to any preparation time provided during Professional Activity Days or otherwise under this collective agreement, the Board shall ensure the following:
- a) Effective September 1, 2012, each teacher will receive 240 minutes of preparation time free from classroom instruction, supervision or other assigned duties, within each cycle of five (5) instructional days.
- 18.1.3 The Board will provide preparation time in blocks of no less than thirty (30) minute blocks. In exceptional circumstances, preparation time may be scheduled in blocks of no less than twenty (20) minutes.
- 18.1.4 Professional Activity Days shall not be considered instructional days for the purpose of scheduling preparation time.
- 18.1.5 Where a teacher is required by the Principal to provide instruction during their scheduled preparation time, missed preparation time shall be rescheduled as soon as administratively feasible, but no later than twenty (20) school days after the loss of the preparation time and in any event within the same school year.
- 18.1.6 Teachers on part-time assignment shall have their preparation time pro-rated, as per their teaching assignment.
- 18.1.7 The Board shall ensure that aggregated preparation time will be maintained on a schedule which will be made available to the Local Union upon request.

18.2 Travel Time Between Work Locations, Daily

- 18.2.1 A teacher who is assigned duties at two (2) or more locations on the same day shall be provided with adequate time to travel between the locations.
- 18.2.2 When travelling time occurs, it shall be exclusive of preparation time, and exclusive of the forty (40) minute lunch period. The Teacher shall be reimbursed for kilometrage at the Board rate.

18.3 Teacher in Charge

- a) A member may agree to act as a teacher in charge for a short time absence of a Principal or Vice-Principal. The term of any individual teacher in charge is limited to twenty (20) consecutive days and not more than forty (40) days in a school year.
- b) If a member acts as teacher in charge, they shall be compensated at the rate of \$30.00 per day. The Board will endeavour to hire an occasional teacher to assume the member's classroom responsibilities.
- c) A teacher in charge shall not review or evaluate other members.

18.4 Lunch Break

Each member is entitled to a lunch break of a minimum of forty (40) consecutive minutes, free from assigned duties.

18.5 School Year

The Board will follow the number of school days and Professional Activity days as defined by the Education Act and Regulations.

18.6 Instructional Time

Effective August 31, 2012, each member with a full-time assignment in elementary schools shall be assigned to provide instruction to pupils for a maximum of one thousand two hundred and sixty minutes (1260) per week.

The instructional day shall be three hundred (300) minutes commencing with the start of opening exercises or the start of instruction, whichever comes first, and ending with the students' dismissal from school for the day exclusive of lunch/nutrition break(s) and recess break(s).

18.7 Supervision

Supervision time shall be defined as the time a teacher is assigned to supervise students outside the Instructional Day as defined in Article 18.6, unless specifically assigned, teachers shall not be required to perform supervisory duties outside of the Instructional Day as defined in Article 18.6.

For greater certainty, supervisory duties include assigned duties such as yard duty, hall duty, bus duty and lunchroom duty and other assigned duties undertaken before the start of opening exercises or the start of instruction in the morning, whichever comes first, and the commencement of classes following the lunch/nutrition break(s) or after the Instructional Day as defined in Article 18.6.

- i) The maxima of supervision minutes for elementary teachers will be eighty (80) minutes within each period of five instructional days. Scheduled supervision duties include, but are not limited to, yard duty, hall duty, bus duty and lunchroom duty.
- ii) Teachers on part-time assignments shall only be required to perform a prorated amount of supervision time in accordance with their teaching assignment.
- iii) The parties agree that the appropriate Superintendent and the President of the Local will meet to discuss procedures for the implementation and monitoring of school supervision schedules.
- iv) The Board shall ensure that supervision is assigned on as equitable a basis as possible.

18.8 Professional Activity Time

- a) Effective 2010-2011, two Professional Activity Days will be designated for the purpose of assessment and completion of report cards: one prior to the first reporting period and one prior to the second reporting period. No more than two Professional Activity Days shall be designated for the purpose of assessment and completion of report cards.

18.9 Occupational Health and Safety

The Board, the Union and its members will comply with the provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations as it may be amended from time to time.

18.9.1

The Board and ETFO recognize the importance of promoting a safe and healthy environment for employees and of fulfilling their respective duties and obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its accompanying Regulations.

18.10 Staff Meetings

Regular staff meetings shall be scheduled by the Principal in consultation with the teaching staff and upon consensus whenever possible. Regularly scheduled staff meetings shall be held no more than once per month on average. Each meeting shall be no more than seventy-five (75) minutes in length. The dates of the regular staff meetings shall be set within the first month of the school year and communicated to all teachers. Regularly scheduled staff meetings may include administrative/organizational issues, professional development, training and other matters aligned with school and board goals. Teachers are expected to attend regularly scheduled staff meetings. Teachers may submit agenda items to the Principal for consideration.

18.11 Harassment

The Board has an obligation to provide a harassment free working environment for employees, parents/guardians, students, volunteers or any other person on Board property or engaged in Board-sponsored activities or in any other work related activities.

18.12 Extra Curricular Activities

The Board and the Union recognize the importance of extra curricular activities. Both parties recognize that the involvement of Union members in extra curricular activities is voluntary unless directed by legislation.

18.13 Peer Coaching and Mentoring

Except as otherwise required in the Education Act or in regulations, no teacher shall be required to act as a peer coach or mentor to another teacher. No information obtained from a coach or mentor, as part of their coaching or mentoring, shall be used in the assessment or evaluation of any teacher.

ARTICLE 19 – VACANCIES

19.1 A vacancy in the bargaining unit is created when a bargaining unit member resigns, retires, transfers, dies, is promoted out of the bargaining unit, or if a new permanent position is created, subject to Article 21.

a) Only those vacancies described in 19.2(a) will be posted.

19.2

- a) Vacancies occurring during the Spring staffing process will be posted as described in Article 21.

A list of all the known vacancies will be posted for a period of two (2) school days. Vacancies will be posted prior to 12:00 noon and will close 3:00 p.m. on the second day.

- b) Vacancies occurring after the Spring Staffing Process and effective before January 31st:

Excluding vacancies for special postings and additional qualification positions, if a vacancy occurs after the Spring Staffing Process and has an effective date before January 31st, it will be filled in the following order, subject to qualifications and seniority by:

- i) Members who have been declared surplus due to re-organization and are without a position;
- ii) Member who accepted a contract position, with less FTE than what they had the previous year, due to available positions in which they were qualified and in their geographic area;
- iii) Members with geographic recall rights (until September 30th);
- iv) Members with partial contracts at the same location as the vacancy;
- v) Members on a geographic Leave of Absence;
- vi) Members on a Recall List;
- vii) Members with partial contracts (not at the same location as the vacancy)
- viii) External hires, who will become regular members covered by this collective agreement.

- c) Vacancies which are effective on or after January 31st:

An Occasional Teacher shall be placed in a vacancy which is effective on, or after January 31st, until the last day of classes. The vacancy shall be filled as in Article 21 (Spring Staffing process) for the following September.

- 19.3 Any member of the Bargaining Unit has the right to apply for a posted vacancy for which the member is qualified. Applications for posted vacancies will be in writing on forms prescribed by the Board. Interviews will be held where warranted.
- 19.4 The assignment posted may not necessarily be the same as the assignment that is vacated within the school. A member successful in a posting will be assigned to that school for subsequent organizational purposes for the coming school year.
- 19.5 Members successful in job postings will be responsible for any cost of travel or relocation.

ARTICLE 20 – BOARD INITIATED TRANSFERS

20.1 Board Initiated Transfers

Transfers may be carried out at any time during the school year. If it becomes necessary to transfer a member, the Board will endeavour to place the transferee in a position which is mutually satisfactory to both parties. The following steps shall apply:

- a) Members shall be advised of the right to seek advice and assistance of a Bargaining Unit representative in transfers under this Article not initiated by the member.
- b) Members involved in these transfers shall be informed five (5) school days in advance of the transfer.
- c) Should a vacancy occur in the school from which the member was transferred, the member may request to be returned to that school.
- d) A member transferred from one worksite to another after September 1st and effective within the same school year, will receive two (2) preparation days to facilitate the change in location. A member who is required to move physical classrooms in the same worksite, or to change assignments in the same worksite, after September 1st and effective within the same school year, will receive one (1) preparation day to facilitate the change.

20.2 A member cannot be transferred from one school to another school that is greater than 100 kilometers distance without the agreement of the member.

20.3 Moving and relocation expenses for members under a Board initiated transfer, where the member relocates their household from one geographic area to another, will be assisted at a rate of 50% of the actual cost of moving the member's household goods to a maximum of \$1,000.00 based on original receipts submitted to the Board.

20.4 Board Initiated Transfer related to school or class closure, in the event of school or class closure, staff will be informed by Step 4 of the Staffing Process in Article 21 c) "members surplus to the school will be placed in vacant positions within the geographic area on the basis of seniority and qualification".

ARTICLE 21 - SURPLUS/STAFFING/RECALL

The President or designate and Superintendent or designate responsible for staffing will communicate regularly throughout the Spring Staffing Process, including a review at every step of the surplus/staffing/recall process.

21.1 Step 1: Excess to the System

- a) Based on needs and projections as identified by the Board in the district wide organization and in consultation with the Union, a minimum of five (5) percent of the members will be identified as excess to the system and removed from the list of members who are to be placed into positions during the Spring staffing process. The identified member(s) will be the least senior members in the district. For clarity, these members may not post or transfer during the staffing process.
- b) A list of the names of members who are excess to the system will be posted by the Board.

21.2 Step 2: Principal School Staffing / Surplus Notification

- a) The Principal of each school shall be responsible for staffing JK to Grade 8 based on the allocation given to the school and the final school organization. The Principal shall staff according to qualifications and seniority in the Board.
- b) Members on a statutory Maternity/Parental Leave, sick leave, or LTD will be included in the staffing complement of the school to which they were previously assigned.
- c) The Principal will identify the least senior member(s) subject to qualifications who are surplus to the school. Members declared surplus to the school will be notified of their surplus status individually by the Principal.
- d) Surplus and BIT members may provide information for consideration with respect to their placements by completing a Placement Consideration Form (Form A). Placement by the Board will be subject to availability of vacancies, qualifications, and seniority.
- e) Should a member elect to take the place of the least senior member and be declared surplus, the member will be placed in a vacant position within the geographic area, subject to seniority and qualifications.
- f) Each school will have a School Staffing Committee. The Committee will consist of the Principal (and may include the Vice Principal if one is assigned to the school), the School steward and a minimum of two (2) other Algoma ETFO contract teachers elected from the teaching staff within the school. The staffing committee will be struck each September.
- g) The School Staffing Committee shall meet to review and discuss staff assignments (JK to 8) during any Re-organization and Spring Staffing. The Principal will inform the Committee of the final

assignments prior to making a formal announcement to staff. It is understood that the Education Act gives the Principal final authority for staffing the school.

- h) Step two (2) of the Staffing Process will be completed no later than a maximum of five (5) days after the Board Meeting in which the proposed organization is approved. If the completion date is not reasonable, then both parties can mutually agree to extend the completion date.

21.3 Step 3: Initial Placement Staffing

- a) The Board will staff the following within the geographic area on the basis of seniority-and qualifications:
- Teachers on Recall List, as per Article 21.9
 - Member funded leaves,
 - Long term leaves without pay,
 - Long term federation leaves,
 - Members declared redundant from Central and School-Based Support Staff positions,
 - Members declared surplus to their schools as a result of reorganization or school/class closure,
 - Board Initiated Transfers (excluding Article 20.4) may also be considered at this step with mutual agreement of the Union to the initiation of the transfer period.
- b) In the event that no vacant positions exist within the geographic area, the least senior member(s) in the geographic area are surplus.
- c) The Board will post a list of all vacancies, excluding central and school-based support positions. Any position requiring a special education qualification(s), where an interview may be required, will be included in the vacancy list.
- d) Members identified in Article 21.3a) and a member who wishes to be considered for a transfer for the next school year, may provide information for consideration with respect to their placement by submitting a Placement Consideration Form (Form A) by 3:00 pm on the day following the posting.
- e) After members identified in Article 21.3a) have been staffed, the Board will staff granted member transfer requests, to another position or change in FTE, if positions are available, subject to seniority and qualifications.
- f) Member initiated transfers (voluntary transfers) will be at the member's expense.
- g) Mutually acceptable exchanges may be arranged with the agreement of the members, principals and Superintendent of Human Resources or designate responsible for staffing, provided necessary qualifications are held.
- h) Staff may be transferred at any time by mutual consent.

21.4 Step 4: General Posting

The Board will post the General Posting which will include vacant general positions and additional qualification positions, as identified in the following list, excluding those outlined in Article 21.6 (Special Postings). Members will complete and submit the General Posting Application Form (Form B).

- Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT)
- Specialized Class/Program (i.e. Special Education Class)
- Core French (FSL)
- French Immersion (FI)
- Native Second Language (NSL)
- Section 23 Class Education Community Partnership Program (ECP)
- Other created additional qualification positions
- Grade 7 and 8 Visual Arts located in Grade 7-12 sites
- Grade 7 and 8 Drama located in Grade 7-12 sites
- Grade 7 and 8 Music located in Grade 7-12 sites
- Grade 7 and 8 Physical Education and Health located in Grade 7- 12 sites
- Grade 7 and 8 Design and Technology located in Grade 7-12 sites

The parties may mutually agree to designate other positions as Additional Qualification positions.

Any surplus member who does not acquire a position at this step will have the option of taking a one year leave of absence with geographic area rights or being laid off. Members laid off will be given notice of layoff no later than June 15th and be placed on the Recall List if the member elects Recall in accordance with Article 21.9.

21.5 Step 5: Excess Placement

- a. The Board shall place members excess to the system into vacant positions within the system on the basis of seniority and qualifications so that the least senior member in the system is excess subject to qualifications. Members will complete and submit the Excess List Vacant Positions-Preferred Considerations (Form C).
- b) Excess members will receive a copy of remaining positions available in the Board, at the completion of Step 4, to help facilitate more accurately the information submitted on Form C.

21.6 Step 6: Special Postings

- a) The Board shall post and fill in accordance with the provisions of Article 19, the following vacant additional qualification positions and/or special postings:
- Central and School-Based Support Staff
 - Itinerant Teacher of Deaf/Blind
 - Special Assignment
 - Instructional Support Teachers (IST)
 - Other created additional qualification positions

The parties may mutually agree to designate other positions as additional qualification positions and/or special postings.

21.7 Geographic Recall

Members who have been declared surplus to their school and who have been placed in another geographic area, shall have the right to return, subject to seniority and qualifications, to positions which are additions to staffing complement and which become available prior to September 30th in the following school year only, in the geographic area from which they were displaced. It is understood that the position that becomes available may not be the position which is vacated, subject to reorganization of the school by the Principal.

21.8 Layoff

In the event that the Board finds itself in a situation where there are members to be laid off for December 31st, the Board will give notice of lay off no later than November 30th. Subject to qualifications, the member(s) laid off will be the least senior member(s). Member(s) laid off will be placed on the Recall List if the member elects Recall in accordance with Article 21.

21.9 Recall:

- a. The Board shall establish and maintain a list of all members who are laid off and have elected recall, called the Recall List. At the time of receipt of notice of lay off, a member who has been laid off will have the option of electing to be placed on the Recall List or to elect severance allowance which shall be payable on the date of termination in accordance with the requirements of the Employment Standards Act. Members will complete and submit the Recall-Severance Option Form (Form D).
- b. Members who have been laid off and elected to be placed on the Recall List shall be recalled to open positions based on seniority and qualifications for a period of up to twenty-six (26)

months and to the end of reorganization in the final year of eligibility for recall from the date of lay off and shall be reinstated as though there had been no interruption in service for the purpose of seniority. Time spent on the Recall List shall not count towards the requirements of the probationary period. Recognition of service for increment purposes shall not be granted for the period of time spent on the Recall List.

- c. While on the Recall List, laid off members shall be entitled to benefit and LTD coverage as per the ETFO Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT).
- d. Members who are eligible for recall shall be responsible for filing their most recent personal email, address and telephone number(s) with the Board.
- e. When a position becomes available for which the member has seniority and qualifications, the Board shall contact the member being recalled by telephone and offer the position. Should the Board be unable to contact the member by telephone, the offer shall be made by personal email. The member(s) so notified must advise the Board of their intention to return to work within three (3) business days by email or telephone, unless the member and Board agree to an alternative date. Members are responsible for contacting Human Resources with their current telephone number and personal email. Failure to respond to the email or telephone correspondence will result in the member's name being removed from the list.
- f. No new employee will be hired by the Board until all members on Recall have been given consideration for recall, based on qualifications and seniority.
- g. A member who was full time prior to being laid off shall have the right to refuse recall to a part-time position without penalty.
- h. A member on the Recall List has the right to refuse recall to a position outside of their geographic area without penalty.

21.10

Subsequent to commencement of school in September the Board will review district-wide organization and the number of staff allocated to schools and may reorganize schools and staff assignments.

ARTICLE 22 - PART-TIME ASSIGNMENTS

22.1 The Board may appoint part-time members according to the needs of the system.

22.2 A member of ETFO on part-time assignment is a member employed on a regular basis for other than full-time duty.

22.3 A member with a part-time assignment may, prior to March 1st, request a full-time assignment commencing the following school year, and shall be granted a full time assignment on the basis

of seniority and qualifications.

22.4 A member with a full-time assignment may, prior to March 1st, request a part-time assignment commencing the following school year, and shall be granted a part-time assignment based on seniority, qualifications and program needs.

22.5 A member on part-time assignment shall be paid according to the salary schedule and allowances in this collective agreement prorated, for the time worked. Prorated will mean the proportion of the year worked by the member in relation to a full-time assignment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, members with an assignment of half time (.5) or greater will not have their area allowance prorated, except where the member has commenced work after the start of the school year.

22.6 A member on part-time assignment will receive all leaves including sick leave on a prorated basis. Prorated will mean the proportion of the year worked by the member in relation to a full-time assignment.

22.7 A member on part-time assignment shall have the right to participate in all benefit plans subject to the ETFO Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT). The Board's contribution to benefit premiums will be made as if the member were on a full-time assignment.

22.8 A member on part-time assignment shall receive credit for teaching experience prorated based on the member's part-time assignment.

22.9 For the purposes of seniority, a member on part-time assignment shall be deemed to be on full-time assignment.

22.10 A member on part-time assignment shall be assigned preparation time on a prorated basis.

Prorated will mean the proportion of the year worked by the member in relation to a full time assignment.

ARTICLE 23 - EVALUATION

No member of the Union shall be required to evaluate another member's competence.

ARTICLE 24 – LEAVES OF ABSENCE – REQUEST PROCESS

Before applying for a leave, employees are expected to advise their Principal/Immediate Supervisor prior to submitting the leave request. Leave requests are to be made through the Board's Electronic Leave of Absence Form.

ARTICLE 25 - BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

25.1 Bereavement Leave shall be granted upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources without loss of pay or sick leave credits as follows:

- a) up to five (5) days for the memorial service of a member's child, parent, sibling, spouse, common law or same sex partner, fiancé/fiancée, guardian, mother-in-law, father-in-law, step-parents, or grandchild, or for a miscarriage or stillbirth experienced by the Member, their spouse, or a surrogate.
- b) up to three (3) days for the memorial service of a member's grandparent (of member or spouse), brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law.

ARTICLE 26 - COMPASSIONATE LEAVE

26.1 Compassionate Leave - Type 1

- a) Compassionate leave shall be granted without loss of pay or sick leave credits for a severe illness of the member's parent, sibling, child, spouse, common law or same sex partner, guardian, which will be considered one involving major surgery or one in which immediate concern is expressed by a doctor for the life of the patient. The Board reserves the right to request the member to provide proof of the need for the leave.
- b) Compassionate leave for those situations under Type 1 will be provided to a maximum of five (5) school or working days per school year.

- c) Any request for leave beyond five (5) school or working days may be taken as a personal leave request and will be subject to Board approval as per Article 27 and/or Article 28.
- d) Member request for Compassionate Leave Type 1 will be made to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate. Where possible, requests for compassionate leave will be made in writing, in advance. In emergencies, a telephone call, confirmed later in writing, is acceptable.

26.2 Compassionate Leave - Type 2

A member may apply to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate, on the appropriate leave form, for up to two days without loss of pay or sick leave for attending to the medical needs of the members' immediate family (father, mother, child, spouse, common law or same sex partner). Where possible, requests for compassionate leave will be made in writing, in advance. In emergencies, a telephone call, confirmed later in writing, is acceptable.

ARTICLE 27 - PERSONAL LEAVE TYPE 1

Upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate, , personal leave may be granted as set out below. The purpose of such leave is to allow members to attend to matters of personal importance which cannot be attended to in any other way.

- a) Upon provisions of reasons satisfactory to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources one day may be granted with pay. (see attached Appendix)
- b) One additional day may be granted upon application of the member to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources, provided the member reimburses the board via payroll deduction at the occasional teacher daily rate of pay regardless of whether one is used or not.
- c) Nothing prevents a member from applying for additional personal day(s) for attending to personal needs outside of the geographic area where the member lives. Such days may be granted under this clause, and if granted, the member agrees to reimburse the Board via payroll deduction at the occasional teacher's daily rate of pay regardless of whether one is used or not.

- d) Personal leave shall not be granted to extend a statutory holiday or vacation period. The Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources may, in exceptional circumstances waive this restriction.

27.1 The Board will grant, subject to the note below, upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources, through the Principal/immediate supervisor, one (1) personal leave day per school year (prorated for part time members) for the reasons set out below:

- a) Death not covered by bereavement leave
- b) Wedding of immediate family member (sibling, child, parent)
- c) Wedding in which the teacher is a member of the wedding party or participating in the nuptials
- d) Surgery/hospitalization of family member not covered by Compassionate Leave Type 1 or Type 2
- e) Convocation of teacher's immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)
- f) Legal appointment requiring the attendance of the member
- g) Required court attendance for the member
- h) Court attendance with member of immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)
- i) Medical appointment with immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)

Note: Where more than one member of a worksite requests personal leave for the same day, the granting of personal leave will be subject to program needs and/or the availability of coverage.

27.2 A member may, for special circumstances not described above, apply for leave under this Article. Such leave may be granted at the sole discretion of the Board.

27.3 Where possible, applications for personal leave must be submitted on the appropriate leave form at least two weeks in advance of the requested date of leave.

27.4 Personal leave will not be granted to extend a statutory holiday or vacation period. The Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources, may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this restriction.

ARTICLE 28 - PERSONAL LEAVE TYPE 2

- 28.1 The Board may grant, subject to the note below, upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate, one (1) personal leave day per school year (prorated for part time members) for the reasons set out below:
- a) Wedding of family member not covered by Type 1
 - b) Accompanying child for tournament, contests, competition and awards
 - c) Accompanying child for attendance at sports and speech awards

Type 1 Personal Leave reasons are listed below as they may be used to request Type 2 Personal Leave:

- i) Death not covered by bereavement leave
- ii) Wedding of immediate family member (sibling, child, parent)
- iii) Wedding in which the teacher is a member of the wedding party or participating in the nuptials
- iv) Surgery/hospitalization of family member not covered by Compassionate Leave Type 1 or Type 2
- v) Convocation of teacher's immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)
- vi) Legal appointment requiring the attendance of the member
- vii) Required court attendance for the member
- viii) Court attendance with member of immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)
- ix) Medical appointment with immediate family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling)

All Type 2 Personal Leaves, if granted will be paid for by the member via payroll deduction at the cost of an occasional teacher whether one is used or not.

Note: Where more than one member at a worksite requests personal leave for the same day, the granting of personal leave will be subject to program needs and/or the availability of coverage.

- 28.2 A member may, for special circumstances not described above, apply for leave under this Article. Such leave may be granted at the sole discretion of the Board.
- 28.3 Where possible, application for personal leave must be submitted on the appropriate leave form at least two weeks in advance of the requested date of leave.

- 28.4 Personal leave will not be granted to extend a statutory holiday or vacation period. The Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources, may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this restriction.

ARTICLE 29 - EMERGENCY LEAVE

- a) Upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate, an emergency leave of one day per school year shall be granted. The teacher going on leave shall reimburse the board via payroll deduction for the cost of an occasional teacher.
- b) The purpose of such leave is to allow the member to attend to matters of emergency, which in the judgement of the member cannot be addressed in any other way.
- c) Under no circumstances shall such leave extend a statutory holiday or vacation period. The Superintendent of Education/Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources, may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this restriction.

ARTICLE 30 – POST-SECONDARY GRADUATION LEAVE

Post secondary graduation leave will be granted to a member with no loss of pay to attend the member's convocation from a certified and recognized post secondary institution, upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate. Such leave shall be for the day of the graduation only and shall be limited to one day.

ARTICLE 31 - EDUCATIONAL EXAMINATION LEAVE

Upon application to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate, a member shall be granted a leave of absence for one day per school year for the purpose of the writing of an educational examination that provides for the advancement of the members academic or professional qualifications and education. Such leave of absence shall be with no loss of pay and shall be for the day of the examination only.

ARTICLE 32 - COURT ATTENDANCE/JURY DUTY

- 32.1 a) A member required by subpoena to appear as a witness in a court case shall be granted a leave of absence with pay and no loss to accumulated sick leave.

- b) A member who is subpoenaed to appear as a witness in a court case and who is a party to the action will be granted a leave of absence without pay.
- 32.2
- a) A member required to serve on a jury shall be granted a leave of absence with pay and no loss to accumulated sick leave for the period requested by the court.
 - b) All pay, excluding travel, meal and accommodation expenses received from the court for such appearances shall be returned to the Board.

ARTICLE 33 - QUARANTINE

A member will be granted a leave of absence with pay and without loss of sick leave as a result of being quarantined or otherwise prevented by order of the Medical Officer of Health from attending their duties.

The onus will be on the member to provide appropriate documentation (Medical Officer of Health Certificate) to the Board as soon as practically possible.

ARTICLE 34 - BIRTH LEAVE

A member shall be entitled to a leave of absence for up to two (2) days without the loss of salary or accumulated sick leave to attend to the responsibilities related to the birth or adoption of the member's child. These days do not need to be consecutive.

ARTICLE 35 - MEMBER ADMINISTRATION LEAVE

- a) A member may be appointed to a position as an acting Principal or Vice-Principal for up to one school year less a day upon request of the Board, who will inform the Union of such appointment and the member so appointed may perform all duties of a Principal or Vice-Principal save formal performance evaluation of other members. For further clarity it is understood that an acting Principal or Vice-Principal will not participate in any evaluation of an ETFO member.
- b) The member shall remain a member of the Bargaining Unit and shall pay Union dues.
- c) A member may be appointed in this manner more than once, provided that the total terms of appointment do not exceed one school year less a day.

ARTICLE 36 - MEMBER FUNDED LEAVE (DEFERRED SALARY PLAN)

- 36.1 Member funded leaves will be individually limited to one (1) leave every five (5) years.
- 36.2 The leaves shall not impede the efficient operation of the school system or the surplus procedures under the agreement.
- 36.3 The granting of leaves shall be governed by the following criteria:
- a) The member is on contract with the Board and is not a probationary teacher.
 - b) The member declares that, except for emergency circumstances, they intend to serve the Board to the end of the plan.
- 36.4 Member funded leaves shall be funded by the member through salary hold back with the leave taken at the end of the period of salary hold back.
- 36.5 The following provisions shall apply:
- a) A member shall make written application to the Board on or before March 1st of the school year prior to that in which the member funded leave is to commence, requesting approval for participation in the plan and specifying the salary deferral desired.
 - b) The terms of the plan will be as follows:
 - i) four (4) school years funded at 20% salary with leave in the fifth year;
or
 - ii) three (3) school years funded at 25% salary with leave in the fourth year.
 - c) Acceptance, rejection or deferral of the application shall be in writing setting out the terms and conditions of the acceptance or explaining the reasons for rejection or deferral by May 15th.
- 36.6 The withheld salary and accrued interest shall be paid to the member during the period of the leave either in one lump sum payment or through the regular biweekly payroll. Arrangements for the method should be made directly through the payroll department.

- 36.7 An employee on a Member Funded Leave will be responsible for paying benefit contributions as per the ETFO Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT).
- 36.8 While a member is on funded leave, no additional sick leave time shall be granted or accumulated.
- 36.9 While a member is on funded leave, no additional teaching experience shall be granted or accumulated.
- 36.10 A member granted funded leave shall be eligible, upon return to duty, to a salary in accordance with the member's experience.
- 36.11 At the conclusion of the leave, a member shall be assigned to a comparable position to the member's previous position within their geographic area subject to staffing, surplus and redundancy procedures.
- 36.12 A member granted funded leave shall continue to accrue seniority and retain full seniority rights for the duration of the leave.
- 36.13 If the member is declared surplus to the elementary system during the period of the leave or salary holdback, the Board shall pay to the member the full amount of the withheld salary and accrued interest up to that time in a manner determined by the Board in consultation with the member.
- 36.14 If the member should die prior to taking leave, the money withheld and interest accrued shall be paid to the estate of the deceased on a date and in a manner determined by the Board in consultation with the executors and administrators of the estate.
- 36.15 A member or the Board may withdraw from the plan at any time prior to taking the leave, provided that written notification is given to the other party at least eight (8) months prior to the commencement of leave. Withdrawal from the funded leave at any other time prior to the commencement of the leave would require mutual agreement.
- 36.16 Once a member has entered into a funded leave agreement with the Board, no alteration may be made to the plan except to withdraw entirely from the plan.
- 36.17 Teachers' Pension Plan contributions shall be in accordance with Teachers' Pension Plan Board regulations.

ARTICLE 37 - FEDERATION LEAVES

37.1 General Shall Days

- a) At the request of the Bargaining Unit, the Board shall grant a leave for the following purposes:
 - provincial federation business
 - training
 - professional development
 - conferences
 - executive leave
 - local bargaining unit business
 - collective bargaining preparation and planning
- b) The combined total for such leaves for all these members shall not exceed 160 days per school year.
- c) The scheduling of such leaves shall be subject to the Board's operational needs. These leaves shall not conflict with the Board's professional development days. The Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this restriction.
- d) These leaves shall be at the cost of an occasional teacher and shall be paid for by the Bargaining Unit.
- e) Any individual member, who is not an executive member and has class, school or system responsibilities, shall be entitled to a maximum of 10 days each per school year, pro-rated for part time teaching responsibilities.
- f) Bargaining Unit Executive members with class, school or system responsibilities shall be entitled to a maximum of 15 days each per school year, pro-rated for part time teaching responsibilities.
- g) The Vice-President shall not be limited to 15 days as per (f) above.

37.2 General May Days

The Board may grant requests from the Bargaining Unit and/or a member for additional leaves in a school year at its sole discretion.

- a) The scheduling of such leaves shall be subject to the Board's operational needs.
- b) These leaves shall not conflict with the Board's professional development days. The Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources may, in exceptional circumstances, waive this restriction.
- c) These leaves shall be at the cost of an occasional teacher and shall be paid for by the Bargaining Unit and/or a member.

37.3 Collective Bargaining Leave

In addition to the release time referred to in Article 37.1, the Board shall grant release time to the Union's Collective Bargaining Committee (Vice-President and three members) for the purpose of negotiation of a new collective agreement. The Bargaining Unit shall reimburse the Board for its actual replacement costs, if any, for the duration of the member's leaves.

37.4 Local Released Officers

- a) The Board may grant a leave of absence to a member of the Bargaining Unit who has been elected or appointed to serve as Local Bargaining Unit President and/or Local Bargaining Unit Vice-President, and/or ETFO/OTF officer.
 - i) The Local Bargaining Unit President may be granted a full time leave of absence.
 - ii) The Local Bargaining Unit Vice-President may be granted a full- time leave of absence.
- b) Requests for such leave shall be submitted in writing to the appropriate Superintendent through the Principal.
- c) The Local Bargaining Unit President and the Local Bargaining Unit Vice- President shall be entitled to accumulate but not access sick leave for the duration of the leave. In the event of a leave which is less than full time, the allocation of sick leave will be prorated.

- d) The member shall retain their relative position on the seniority list.
- e) Upon return from leave the member shall be placed in a position comparable to the previous position within the member's geographical area, subject to staffing and surplus procedures.
- f)
 - i) The Board shall be reimbursed for the full cost (100%) of salary and employee benefits for any person granted leave to serve as an ETFO/OTF officer.
 - ii) In respect of leave(s) for the Local Bargaining Unit President and/or the Local Bargaining Unit Vice-President, the Board shall be reimbursed, at the Category A3, Year 0 for the Local Bargaining Unit President, and for the Vice-President the Board shall be reimbursed at Category A3 Year 5, plus the absent member(s)' non statutory benefits.
- i) The Union shall be responsible for any WSIB costs related to injuries which occur during the period of a long-term Union leave.

ARTICLE 38 - PREGNANCY AND PARENTAL LEAVE

Refer to C11.2 Pregnancy Leave for additional information

38.1 This leave will correspond with the Employment Standards Act (ESA). Additional time for pregnancy and parental leave will be considered where such time is taken to correspond with the natural breaks of the school year.

38.2 The Board shall provide for members on pregnancy leave a Supplemental Employment Insurance Benefit Plan (SEB).

Refer to LOU # 6 and the Central Terms of the 2019-2022 Collective Agreement for further information.

38.3 Members going on a leave will receive the full amount of salary owing prior to commencement of the leave.

38.4 Benefit coverage will be subject to the ETFO Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT) and seniority will be continued as set out in the ESA.

38.5 Members may apply for additional Parental Leave for up to two years. Application must be

made in writing to the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources at least six weeks prior to the commencement of the leave. The member will be responsible for 100% of the benefit coverage.

38.6 A member returning from a statutory pregnancy/parental leave will be guaranteed return to the same position held before going on leave, subject to staffing and surplus procedures. If a member takes an extended leave under Article 38.5, the member will be guaranteed return to a comparable position subject to staffing and surplus procedures.

38.7 Maternity Leave Top-Up

Notwithstanding, members may access the use of sick leave credits following childbirth for complications that are supported by a Doctor's certificate. Such sick leave will be limited to six weeks from the date of delivery, subject to the amount of accumulated sick leave standing in the member's credit.

38.8 Adoption Leave

A teacher who is adopting a child shall be entitled to up to five (5) school days without loss of salary or sick leave credits to attend the necessary court proceedings, meetings, hearings or other function connected with the adoption of the child, including travel time. These days do not need to be taken consecutively and are to be used in the period prior to the time the child comes into the teacher's custody, care, and control.

ARTICLE 39 - SICK LEAVE PLAN

Refer to C6.00 Sick Leave for additional information

ARTICLE 40 - RETIREMENT GRATUITY

Existing collective agreement clauses dealing with Retirement and Service Gratuity from predecessor Board areas will be grand-parented for members employed in those geographical areas on June 30, 1998. An individual letter will be placed in each member's file.

ARTICLE 41 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY

41.1 The Board may grant requests for leaves of absence without pay or benefits. Time spent on a leave of absence shall not count towards the requirements of a probationary period. Leaves

under this clause will not contribute to Teaching Experience.

- 41.2 If a member is granted a leave of absence without pay for four (4) consecutive days or more, they shall not normally be granted another leave without pay for four (4) consecutive days or more for the next 5 years.
- 41.3 Application for Leave Without Pay shall be made through the Board's electronic leave system. The application will state the purpose for which the leave is requested.
- 41.4 The Board may grant requests for extended leaves of absence without pay or benefits up to a maximum of two consecutive years for members. Time spent on a leave of absence shall not count towards the requirements of a probationary period.
- 41.5 While on leave of absence the member may continue benefits coverage at no cost to the Board subject to the ETFO Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT).
- 41.6 Application for leaves of absence commencing September 1st under this section must be made through the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources or designate by March 1st.
- 41.7 Changes in the terms of the leave must be applied for in writing.
- 41.8 Changes to the terms of the leave will be by mutual consent.
- 41.9 Notwithstanding 42.5, in special circumstances, the Board may grant requests for leave throughout the school year.
- 41.10 The application will state the purpose for which the leave is requested.
- 41.11 Members granted a leave of absence without pay will retain their relative position on the seniority list. A member on leave of absence without pay will not accumulate teaching experience.
- 41.12 At the conclusion of the leave, the member shall be returned to a comparable position in their geographic area, as per Article 24 subject to seniority, qualifications and staffing/surplus procedures.
- 41.13 Notwithstanding Article 41.1, the Board shall grant a leave of absence without pay or benefits for up to five (5) years to a member in the event that the member is elected to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, the House of Commons or the local council of a municipality/township. The member shall retain their relative position on the seniority list for the period of the leave.

ARTICLE 42 - UNION REPRESENTATION

- 42.1 The Union shall notify the Board in writing of the names of persons elected to office in the Union and of persons authorized by the Union to represent members in a particular school or workplace on behalf of the Union (workplace steward).
- 42.2 The Board will provide the Union representative designated in Article 42.1 access to a bulletin board in each school for posting of Union business and information for members providing there is one available in a place not visible to students or general public.
- 42.3 The Board shall inform a teacher of their entitlement, to have the local President or designate present when meetings involving any formal disciplinary actions are undertaken.

ARTICLE 43 - GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

43.1 Grievance Procedure

A grievance shall be defined as a matter arising from the interpretation, application, administration or alleged contravention of this Agreement.

43.2 Individual Grievance

a) Informal Step

- i) If a member(s) feels there has been a contravention of the collective agreement, that member(s) shall first seek remedy through an informal meeting with their principal or immediate supervisor. The member(s) may have Bargaining Unit representation present at said meeting, should the member so desire.
- ii) The member must discuss the alleged contravention with the principal or immediate supervisor within ten (10) school days of the alleged contravention.

b) Step 1

- i) If the informal discussion does not result in a resolution, the Bargaining Unit, on behalf of the member(s) may file a written grievance with the appropriate Superintendent of Education (with a copy to the principal or immediate supervisor) within ten (10) school days of the informal meeting with the

- principal or immediate supervisor.
 - ii) Such written grievance shall contain:
 - a) a description of how the alleged dispute is in violation of the collective agreement including the relevant Article number(s); and
 - b) a statement of the fact to support such a grievance; and
 - c) the relief sought; and
 - d) the signatures of the duly authorized official of the Bargaining Unit.
 - iii) The Superintendent or designate shall respond in writing to the grievance within fifteen (15) school days.
- c) Step 2
 - i) If the grievance is not resolved at Step 1, the Bargaining Unit may within fifteen (15) school days from the date of receipt of the reply of the Superintendent or designate, submit the grievance to the Director.
 - ii) The Bargaining Unit shall be notified in writing of the answer of the Director within fifteen (15) school days from the date of the receipt of the grievance at Step 2.
 - iii) If the reply of the Director is unacceptable to the Bargaining Unit, the Bargaining Unit shall advise the Board of their position within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the reply.
- d) Time restrictions may be extended if mutually agreed upon at any step in this process. Consent to extend the time restrictions will not be unreasonably withheld.
- e) The failure of one party to comply with the time allowance of any agreed upon extension shall result in the grievance being progressed to the next step.
- f) A grievance regarding a dismissal of an employee may be initiated at Step 2 of the Individual Grievance Procedure.

- g) If a meeting has not yet been held between the Grievance Committee and the Board, then a meeting will be held at Step 2.

43.3 Policy Grievance (Bargaining Unit or Board Initiated)

a) Informal Step

- i) The party alleging contravention of the collective agreement shall first attempt to resolve the matter by informal discussion with either the appropriate superintendent or duly authorized representative of the Bargaining Unit as the case may be.
- ii) Such a meeting shall occur within ten (10) school days of the date of the alleged contravention of the agreement.

b) Step 1

- i) In the event that informal discussion did not result in a resolution to the matter, the party wishing to file a grievance shall do so in writing to either the Director or the Bargaining Unit President, as the case may be, within ten (10) school days of the informal meeting.
- ii) Such written grievance shall contain:
 - a) a description of how the alleged dispute is in violation of the collective agreement, including the relevant Article number(s); and
 - b) a statement of the fact to support such a grievance; and
 - c) the relief sought; and
 - d) the signatures of the duly authorized officials of either the Bargaining Unit or the Board, as the case may be.
- iii) The Director or President of the Bargaining Unit, as the case may be, shall respond in writing to the grievance within fifteen (15) school days of the receipt of the written grievance.

c) Step 2

If the reply at Step 1 is unacceptable to the grievor, the grievor shall then advise the other party of their position within fifteen (15) school days from the date of the receipt of the reply at Step 1.

d) Time Restrictions

Time restrictions may be extended if mutually agreed upon. Consent to extend time restrictions will not be unreasonably withheld. The failure of one party to comply with time allowances of any agreed upon extensions shall result in the grievance being progressed to the next step.

43.4 Alternative Forms of Grievance Mediation

- a) At any time, following the Informal Step in the Grievance Procedure, the parties by mutual consent in writing, may elect to resolve the Grievance by using any form of Grievance Mediation the parties may find mutually acceptable. The parties shall agree on the individual to be the Mediator and the time frame in which a resolution is to be reached. The decision of the Grievance Mediator shall not add to, delete from, modify or otherwise amend the provisions of this Agreement.
- b) The fees for the Grievance Mediator and any related expenses shall be shared equally by the parties.
- c) Each party shall pay the wages and expenses as well as related costs of their respective attendees, advisors and witnesses.

43.5 Arbitration

- a) Either party desiring Arbitration shall notify the other party in writing of its desire to submit a grievance to Arbitration. The notice shall contain the name of the first party's appointee to the Arbitration Board.
- b) The recipient of the notice shall within fifteen (15) school days inform the other party either that it accepts the other party's appointee as a single Arbitrator or inform the other party of the name of its appointee to the Arbitration Board.
- c) When two appointees are so selected they shall appoint a third person who shall be the Chair. This appointment shall be made within fifteen (15) working days.

- d) If the recipient of the notice fails to appoint an Arbitrator or if the two appointees fail to agree upon a Chair within fifteen (15) working days, the appointment shall be made by the Minister of Labour upon the request of either party.
- e) The single Arbitrator or the Arbitration Board, as the case may be, has the powers of an Arbitrator or Arbitration Board under the Labour Relations Act.
- f) The single Arbitrator or the Arbitration Board, as the case may be, shall hear pertinent representation by the parties and/or representative and determine the difference or allegation and shall issue a decision. The decision shall be final and binding upon the parties and upon any employees or employer affected by it.
- g) The decision of the majority is the decision of the Arbitration Board, but if there is no majority, the decision of the Chair governs.
- h) The Arbitrator or Arbitration Board, as the case may be, shall not by their decision add to, delete from, modify or otherwise amend the provisions of this Agreement.
- i) The fees for a single Arbitrator, or a Chair of a Board of Arbitration, shall be shared equally by the parties. Each party shall pay the costs of its nominee to a Board of Arbitration where used.
- j) Upon mutual agreement, the grievor may submit the grievance to a single Arbitrator who shall have the same power as a Board of Arbitration.
- k) Prior to proceeding to Arbitration the parties may meet in an attempt to resolve the outstanding issues.

ARTICLE 44 - HEALTH SUPPORT

The following to be effective September 1, 2003:

A member will not be required to provide any medical/physical assistance to pupils except in the instance of medical emergencies. A member may provide such assistance as is necessary for the safety and well being of the pupil.

ARTICLE 45 - COPIES OF THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

- 45.1 An electronic copy of this Collective Agreement will be available on the Board website within ninety (90) days of the signing of the agreement. The Board will provide copies to Administration and the Union will provide copies to members upon request.
- 45.2 Each applicant, when accepted for employment, shall be provided with an electronic copy of this collective agreement..

ARTICLE 46 - DEFINITIONS

- a) "Geographic Area" means:
1. Chapleau
 2. Central Algoma (Echo Bay, Desbarats, Thessalon, St. Joseph Island)
 3. Hornepayne
 4. Michipicoten
 5. North Shore (Elliot Lake, Blind River)
 6. Sault Ste. Marie
- b) "Voluntary Transfer" is a transfer of a member from one worksite to another within the jurisdiction of the Algoma District School Board initiated by the member.
- c) "Board Initiated Transfer (BIT)" is a transfer of a member from one worksite to another within the member's geographic area.
- d) "Excess to the System" are Teachers who have been identified by the Board who are removed from the list of Teachers who are part of the Spring Staffing process until excess placement occurs. These members may not post or transfer during the staffing process.
- e) "Surplus" refers to a member for whom no position exists within their school or worksite or within their geographic area, or who is placed on the Surplus List in accordance with Article 21.2.

ARTICLE 47 - STRIKE AND LOCKOUT

There shall be no strike or lockout during the term of this agreement. The terms strike and lockout shall be as defined in the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

ARTICLE 48 - VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK

The Board will ensure that all records and information (including offence declaration and CPIC record) obtained pursuant to Regulation 521/01 of the Education Act are stored in a secure location and in a completely confidential manner. Access to such records and information will be strictly limited to the members of Senior Administration, the Superintendent/Manager of Human Resources and/or designate and the member and/or designate or any other person required by law.

ARTICLE 49 - INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of adverse weather conditions which results in the cancellation of buses, members will be expected to make a reasonable effort to report to work. If a member in the affected areas of cancellation is unable to report to work because of weather conditions, the member will notify their immediate supervisor as soon as possible. It is expected that the member will continue to make reasonable efforts throughout the day to report to the work site or to an alternate work site. There will be no loss of pay or sick leave provided the member has complied with the requirements of the foregoing.

ARTICLE 50 - TEACHER PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

- 50.1 The Union President or designate shall be notified of an unsatisfactory or development needed teacher evaluation prior to the post observation meeting.
- 50.2 A principal, vice principal or supervisory officer shall evaluate a teacher's competence.
- 50.3 No member of the Union shall be required or requested to evaluate a member's competence.

ARTICLE 51 - DURATION

- 51.1 This agreement shall be in effect from September 1, 2022 and shall continue in force up to and including August 31, 2026 and shall continue automatically thereafter for annual periods of one year unless either party notifies the other, in writing within one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the expiration date, that it desires to negotiate with a view to renewal, with or without modifications of the agreement, in accordance with the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #1
BETWEEN THE
ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND
E.T.F.O.- ALGOMA**

RE: PAY EQUITY

It is agreed by the parties that the 2000-2002 and 2002-2004 collective agreements hereby settle all possible pay equity issues for the Bargaining Unit.

It is hereby agreed that members may only progress beyond Step 11 (penultimate) to Step 12 (ultimate) of Category A based on certification by QECO indicating their eligibility to progress in accordance with the provincial pay equity settlement between the Board and the elementary branch affiliates dated May 14, 1991. The details of requirements for such progression are attached hereto.

Dated this 9th day of June 2005 at Sault Ste. Marie

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Algoma District School Board

[Signature]
ETFO - Algoma

[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #2 BETWEEN

THE ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND

ETFO - ALGOMA DISTRICT

Re: Resignment on Commuted Value

The parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1) Only those Elementary Teachers whose eligibility for a Retirement Gratuity is grandfathered under Article 40 – Retirement Gratuity of the collective agreement are eligible for consideration for Retirement Gratuity under the terms of this Letter of Understanding.
 - a) Such Elementary Teachers who resign from the teaching profession and who elect to immediately thereafter transfer the commuted value of their pension to another retirement savings plan in accordance with the provisions of the Teachers Pension Act will be deemed to have retired on pension for the purpose of qualifying for a Retirement Gratuity, provided however, that the date of resignation on transfer of commuted value is not earlier than the date upon which the individual would be sixteen (16) years away from their normal retirement date as defined in the Teachers’ Pension Plan (Item 40 as attached), as the same may be amended from time to time. In order to receive an RG, the teacher must also meet all other retirement gratuity eligibility criteria in accordance with Article 40 – Retirement Gratuity including any grandfathered predecessor Board criteria.
 - b) Such Elementary Teachers who elect a transfer of commuted value in the circumstances contemplated in item (a) must provide the Board with proof, satisfactory to the Board, that their resignation date is not earlier than the date upon which the individual would be more than sixteen (16) years away from their normal retirement date as defined in the Teachers’ Pension Plan (Item 40 as attached), as the same may be amended from time to time and with proof, satisfactory to the Board, that they have applied and been approved for a commuted value transfer of funds.

Dated this 9th day of June 2005 at Sault Ste. Marie

Harold

A. McCool

[Signature]
Algoma District School Board

Gayle Mandey
ETFO - Algoma

C. McPhee

[Signature]
Gary Hills

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #3

BETWEEN

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

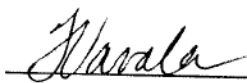
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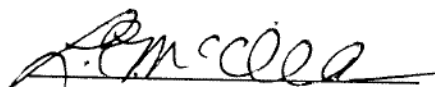
ETFO – ALGOMA DISTRICT

Re: Gratuity Supplement


The Board and the Union agree to provide a one time payout of \$5,500.00 upon retirement, named on the attached list, agreed to by the Board and the Union, who were employees of the predecessor Board of Central Algoma. It is understood that this would only apply to eligible elementary teachers currently employed by the Algoma District School Board and who would have qualified for the E.R.I.P. in place for the Central Algoma Board prior to amalgamation. This will not apply to any elementary teachers who retired prior to ratification of this collective agreement.

Dated this 9th day of June 2005 at Sault Ste. Marie








Algoma District School Board


ETFO - Algoma



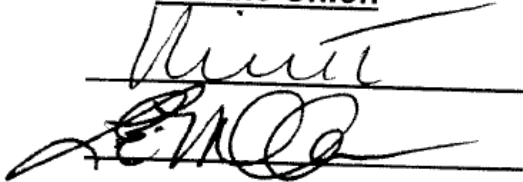
Gratuity Supplement

Central Algoma With Grandparented Retirement Gratuity

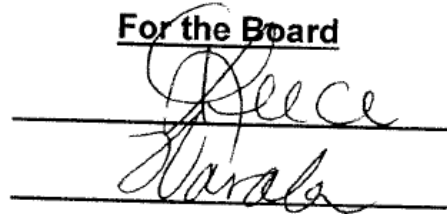
September 1, 2009

Carla Speck

For the Union

Handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "M. M. M.", written over two horizontal lines.

For the Board

Handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "D. Speck", written over two horizontal lines.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #4

BETWEEN

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND

ETFO-ALGOMA DISTRICT

Re: Opening/Closure/Reconfiguration of Schools

For the duration of the 2019-2022 collective agreement, the parties agree that in the event that a school is to be opened, closed or substantially reconfigured, a meeting will be called of the Labour Management Committee as soon as possible after the decision is made to discuss the implications for staff.

For the purpose of this article, an affected school is one that would lose students or gain students as a direct result of the decision to open, close or reconfigure a school.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #5

BETWEEN

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND

ETFO-ALGOMA DISTRICT

Re: Labour-Management Committee

There shall be a Labour-Management Committee consisting of two (2) members appointed by the Employer and two (2) appointed by the Union.

The Committee will meet to discuss issues pertinent to the Parties. Discussions shall include

but are not limited to:

- workload issues;
- programs and initiatives (Board/Ministry);
- potential school closures/reorganizations
- Health and Safety
- the tracking and monitoring of leave requests (paid and unpaid under Articles 27, 28, and 29) for the duration of 2014-2017 Collective Agreement

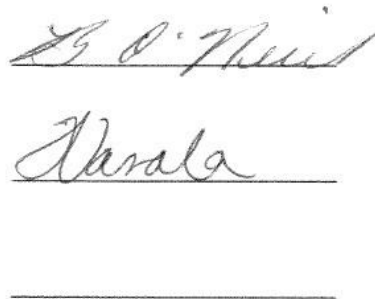


Up to three (3) meetings each school year shall be held at the request of either party.

For the Union

For the Board





**ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
(Hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) AND**

**ALGOMA ETFO
(Hereinafter referred to as “the Union”)**

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #6

Memorandum 2018: B05 – Employment Insurance (EI Waiting Period) and Supplementary Employment Insurance Benefits

The Board will adhere to the suggestion outlined in Memorandum 2018: B05 – Employment Insurance (EI Waiting Period) and Supplementary Employment Insurance Benefits. Specifically, the Board will apply a cost neutral approach to make an additional payment above the Service Canada approved SEB plan as outlined in Articles C11.2 and 38 - Pregnancy and Parental Leave. This payment will provide total earnings equivalent to what the individual would have received from the SEB plan prior to the reduction in the EI waiting period.

The intent of Memorandum 2018: B05, which this Letter of Understanding addresses, is to ensure members receive total earnings in the amount that they would have received from the SEB plan prior to January 1, 2017. Prior to January 1, 2017 there was a two- week waiting period for EI benefits compared to the one-week waiting period that was instituted thereafter. At that time, the Board paid members 100% of regular earnings during the two-week waiting period for EI benefits, followed by six weeks of top up to regular earnings, which was a payment by the Board for the difference between EI benefits and the member’s regular earnings.

To make members whole, the Board will apply a cost neutral approach.

This will be a one-time payment, the timing of which will be at the Board’s discretion.

This payment does not form part of the SEB plan in Articles C11.2, and 38 – Pregnancy and Parental Leave.

Members affected by this Letter of Understanding are those that begin their Pregnancy Leave on or after January 1, 2021.

This Letter of Understanding is contingent upon the existence and application of Memorandum 2018: B05 – Employment Insurance (EI Waiting Period) and Supplementary Employment Insurance Benefits.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN:

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS' FEDERATION OF ONTARIO AND

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The parties agree that, in this Collective Agreement, "shall" will have the same meaning as "will".

Dated this 9th day of June 2005 at Sault Ste. Marie

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Algoma District School Board

[Signature]
ETFO - Algoma

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[Signature]
[Signature]

For the agreement of the Central Terms of Agreement (Part A) and Local Terms of Agreement (Part B) between the Algoma District School Board and the Algoma District Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario, on this date of February 3, 2025.

Frank A. Plumbo.

Shelly Redman

Nicole Trone

[Signature]

Alicia Mannarino

[Signature]
[Signature]

ALGOMA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ETFO - ALGOMA